

Trillium I 20P/PA Seismometer User Guide

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Trillium 120P/PA Seismometer User Guide

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About This Document

Document Conventions

Essential and Supplementary Information

	Warning	Explains a risk of irreversible damage to data, software, or equipment and provides recommendations for preventive action.
	Caution	Explains a risk of damage to data, software, or equipment where recovery is likely to be troublesome and provides recommendations for preventive action.
	Note	Provides additional information related to the current text.
	Tip	Explains a best practice or provides helpful information related to the current text.
	Example	Provides an example related to the current text.

Text Conventions

bold text	Identifies referenced elements in the graphical user interface (GUI) (for example, "click Cancel to discard the changes").
<i>italic text</i>	Identifies variables such as parameter names and value placeholders (for example, "select Configuration > <i>Sensor Name</i> ").
<code>courier text</code>	Identifies commands that must be entered exactly as shown (for example, "type <code>mkdir \$APOLLO_LOCATION/config</code> ").

Changes Included in This Revision

Revision number 15149R6 includes the following changes:

- ◆ Formatting changes

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Part 1

Installation

- ◆ Getting Started
- ◆ Selecting and Preparing a Site
- ◆ Installing a Trillium 120P/PA
- ◆ Post-Installation Activities

Chapter 1

Getting Started

1.1 About Trillium 120P/PA Seismometers

Weighing only 7.2 kg and measuring only 21 cm in diameter, Trillium 120P/PA seismometers are three-component, very broadband, low-noise seismometers suitable for both portable and fixed applications. With an extended low frequency range useful out to beyond 1000 s, ability to resolve Peterson's new low-noise model (NLNM) down to a 100 s period, low noise, and wide dynamic range, these observatory-class seismometers are ideal for teleseismic, regional, and local studies.

The symmetric triaxial arrangement of the sensing elements in Trillium 120P/PA seismometers ensures uniformity between vertical and horizontal outputs. The ability to remotely select either the raw (UVW) or resulting horizontal-vertical (XYZ) outputs allows for the calibration of each axis separately. For some studies, it may be preferable to use UVW mode instead of XYZ mode for recording seismic data.

Featuring low sensitivity to both tilt and temperature, Trillium 120P/PA seismometers rarely require mass centring after the initial installation. If recentring is required, Trillium 120PA seismometers make it an easy task with an automatic mass recentring capability that facilitates both local and remote recentring.

1.2 Unpacking and Handling a Trillium 120P/PA

The shipping box and packing foam for Trillium 120P/PA seismometers have been designed and tested to protect the seismometers against the impact of accidental drops during hand-carrying and from vibration and shock during shipping. To maintain warranty protection, Trillium 120P/PA seismometers must always be transported in packaging approved by Nanometrics. Save the original packaging and reuse it any time you are transporting a Trillium 120P/PA. If custom packaging is required for a particular application, please consult Nanometrics (see [Contacting Nanometrics](#) on page 69).

After delivering a Trillium 120P/PA to its installation site, you can safely remove it from the packaging and handle it without any special precautions other than taking care not to drop it or bang it against hard surfaces. Trillium 120P/PA seismometers do not require any mass lock mechanisms. The seismometer is ready to operate right out of the box and can withstand shocks of up to 20 g with no degradation in performance or service life.

Trillium 120P/PA seismometers come with a removable lifting handle. Do not use this handle to carry your seismometer over long distances. The handle should only be used to help lift or carry the seismometer at the installation site. For more information on using the handle, see [Section 3.1 "Alignment, Levelling, and Placement Features"](#) on page 11.



Do not use the lifting handle to carry your Trillium 120P/PA seismometer over long distances as the seismometer could gradually rotate and fall off of the handle.

1.3 Preparing to Install a Trillium 120P/PA

Advanced planning and preparation for the installation of your Trillium 120P/PA seismometer will ensure that you have a properly prepared site and the tools and materials you need readily available. Follow these recommendations when preparing for your installation:

- ◆ Select and prepare your site.

If the site requires the construction of a pier or other time-consuming labour, factor this time into your installation schedule. See [Chapter 2 "Selecting and Preparing a Site"](#) for more information.

- ◆ Select your insulation method.

You can thermally insulate your seismometer with the Trillium 120P/PA Insulating Cover (recommended) or make a freestanding cover out of rigid plastic foam. Determine which method you will use before your installation so that you have the necessary materials on-site. For more information on insulating your seismometer, see [Section 3.3 "Theory and Practice of Insulation"](#) on page 14 and [Section 3.4 "Insulation Options"](#) on page 15.

- ◆ Gather your installation tools and materials. At a minimum you should have the following on-site when installing your seismometer:

- Thermal insulation
- Power source
- Digitizer and cable (see [Table 1-1 "List of Trillium 120P/PA optional equipment"](#) on page 5 for information on Nanometrics digitizers and cables)
- Compass and drawing utensils for alignment (see [Section 3.2 "Best Practices for Aligning and Levelling a Trillium 120P/PA"](#) on page 13)

- ◆ Gather any optional tools and materials you may need. Your installation may also require:

- A laptop with software and cables required to connect to and communicate with the digitizer if using a digitizer without a display screen.
- 5/16 in. alignment rods if you are using the east-west alignment holes. Using the north-south scribe lines is preferred. See [Section 3.1 "Alignment, Levelling, and Placement Features"](#) on page 11.
- Lifting handle if you are installing the seismometer in a vault that is only accessible from the top.

1.4 Trillium 120P/PA Optional Equipment

Nanometrics offers optional equipment that add convenience to the installation and use of your Trillium 120P/PA seismometer. The table below describes a number of these options.

Table 1-1 List of Trillium 120P/PA optional equipment

Name	Part Number	Description
Trillium 120P/PA Insulating Cover	16799	Easily installed system that provides thermal insulation and protection from external air currents. Includes a foam base gasket and a rigid form-fitting cover matched to the Trillium 120P/PA. Properly installed, the cover attenuates temperature-induced long period noise by up to 40 dB. Requires a flexible cable with a right-angle connector.
Cable – Trillium seismometer to Nanometrics digitizer	16169-3M 16169-5M 16169-10M 16169-15M 16169-25M	Double-shielded, ultra-flexible cable with Trillium 120P/PA seismometer right-angled connector on one end and Nanometrics digitizer connector on the other end for connecting a Taurus or Trident. Standard cable lengths are 3 m, 5 m, 10 m, 15 m, and 25 m. Custom cable lengths are available upon request.
Cable – Trillium seismometer to Nanometrics digitizer, regulating	16163-3M 16163-5M 16163-10M 16163-15M 16163-25M	Double-shielded, ultra-flexible cable with Trillium 120P/PA seismometer right-angled connector on one end and Nanometrics digitizer connector on the other end for connecting a Taurus or Trident. Digitizer connector contains a power supply that filters out power-induced noise. Standard cable lengths are 3 m, 5 m, 10 m, 15 m, and 25 m. Custom cable lengths are available upon request.
Cable – Trillium seismometer to open end	16170-3M 16170-5M 16170-10M 16170-15M 16170-25M	Double-shielded, ultra-flexible cable with Trillium 120P/PA seismometer right-angled connector on one end and open-ended at the other end for attaching the connector of a third-party digitizer. Standard cable lengths are 3 m, 5 m, 10 m, 15 m, and 25 m. Custom cable lengths are available upon request.
Cable – Trillium seismometer to third party digitizer	Contact Nanometrics	Double-shielded, ultra-flexible cable with Trillium 120P/PA seismometer right-angled connector on one end and a connector for a common third party digitizer, such as a Q330 or REFTEK D130, on the other end. Contact Nanometrics (see Contacting Nanometrics on page 69) for a full listing of cables with connectors to third party digitizers.
Cable – Serial communications cable	15766	Cable to enable serial communications between a Trillium 120P/PA seismometer and a laptop. Contact Nanometrics (see Contacting Nanometrics on page 69) for more details.
5/16 in. alignment rods	Contact Nanometrics	Rods that fit into the 5/16 in. diameter holes on the base of a Trillium 120P/PA seismometer. Used for aligning the seismometer to east-west. Contact Nanometrics (see Contacting Nanometrics on page 69) for more details.

Table 1-1 List of Trillium 120P/PA optional equipment

Name	Part Number	Description
Taurus Portable Seismograph	14977	<p>Compact, self-contained, 24-bit digitizer and data logger with low power consumption, and 142 dB dynamic range. Use as a stand-alone time-series data logger or as a component in a data acquisition network.</p> <p>Incorporates a three-channel 24-bit digitizer, GPS receiver and system clock, removable data storage, and remote communication options.</p> <p>Can be installed in the seismometer vault, requiring only a short cable.</p> <p>Configurable locally using the colour display screen and integrated browser or remotely using any Web browser over a TCP/IP connection.</p>
Trident 305 Digitizer	14072	<p>A 24-bit digitizer with 142 dB dynamic range and Nanometrics NMX-bus for connecting to Taurus, Cygnus satellite transceiver, or other NMX-bus enabled device.</p> <p>The NMX-bus host device, such as a Taurus, supplies GPS timing and power to the Trident.</p> <p>Can be installed in the seismometer vault, requiring only a short cable.</p> <p>Weather-sealed enclosure also allows outdoor installations.</p> <p>Configurable locally using the host Taurus or remotely using any Web browser over a TCP/IP connection.</p>

1.5 Technical Support and Maintenance

If you need technical support, please submit your request by email or fax. Include a full explanation of the problem and any supporting information (such as mass position readings, photographs of the site, operating input voltage and current) to help us direct your request to the most knowledgeable person for reply. Before returning a unit for repair, contact Nanometrics Technical Support (see [Contacting Technical Support](#) on page 69) to obtain an RMA number.

The Trillium 120P/PA mechanical and electronic elements have been designed to be robust and reliable, to ensure there is no need to open units for on-site maintenance. The internal reverse-voltage protection and over-current protection automatically resets when the fault is removed, so there are no fuses to replace. The automatic mass tensioner mechanism is designed to be jam-proof.

1.5.1 Recording Your Serial Number

The serial number of your Trillium 120P/PA is located on the seismometer, below the connector. Record the serial number and keep it accessible. You need to reference this number when contacting Technical Support.

Chapter 2

Selecting and Preparing a Site

2.1 Selecting a Site

There is no substitute for a geological survey when it comes to site selection. A survey provides knowledge of the structures over which the seismometer will be installed.

Where possible, seismometers should be installed on bedrock and as far away as possible from sources of cultural noise such as roads, dwellings, and tall structures. Low porosity is important as water seepage through the rock can cause tilts which overwhelm the seismic signal at long periods. Clay soils and, to a lesser extent, sand are especially bad in this sense.

Use the worksheet in [Section 2.4 "Site Record"](#) on page 10 to record information about the structure, cultural environs, and climatic conditions of the site; as well as information about the type and length of the installation. [Section 2.2.1 "Common Types of Installations"](#) on page 8 provides recommendations for some common installation types.

2.2 Planning Your Installation

Before deploying your seismometer, you should have an understanding of the type of installation you will use and how you will insulate your seismometer. Your installation must be designed to provide a stable base for the seismometer without any forces or disturbances acting on it.

The installation methods described in this section incorporate installation design guidelines that aim to reduce the possibility of installation-related noise. Horizontal spikes in the signal are indicative of installation-related issues, and it is normal to see horizontal spikes following installation. However, if the spikes do not diminish after a few days, there may be a problem with the installation. See [Section 4.4 "Troubleshooting Your Installation"](#) on page 22 for more information.

2.2.1 Common Types of Installations

Following are three common methods for installing and insulating a seismometer (see [Section 3.3 "Theory and Practice of Insulation"](#) on page 14 and [Section 3.4 "Insulation Options"](#) on page 15 for more information on insulation):

a) Vault installation

Vault installations can be at or below the surface and usually include a pier that provides a level platform for the seismometer to sit on and good coupling to the ground.

The pier must be insulated from air currents to prevent tilt noise caused by the thermal expansion or contraction of its surface. For a pier solidly connected to the ground (such as a poured cement pad on top of bedrock), a useful technique is to place a thick quilt over the surface of the pier. Cutting a hole out of the quilt allows it to drop over the insulating cover of the seismometer and cover the pier.

Thoroughly insulate the roof of the vault and any exposed sides. Seal the door and any other openings. Do not use a thermostat-controlled heating or cooling system because the temperature cycling will show up as periodic noise in the seismic signal.

b) Temporary deployment on rock

Install the seismometer on the flattest available surface and lay sand in a ring around it to create a flat sealing surface for the rigid insulation that will cover it.

c) Temporary deployment in sediment

Dig a pit to bury the seismometer. A depth of 2 ft. is sufficient to ensure the seismometer and insulation will be completely covered and not disturbed. If possible, place a metal plate or paving stone at the bottom of the pit to create a hard, flat surface. Install the seismometer in the pit and cover it with a rigid insulating cover. The cover will prevent the seismometer from being disturbed by sediments shifting and settling against it. Hold the cover down while piling sediment around it to ensure that it does not shift as it is buried.

A simpler but less optimal method is to place the seismometer directly in the ground and bury it. This method provides good insulation, but horizontal noise spikes may be observed due to instability of the soil.

2.3 Recommendations for Pier Construction

If your installation involves the construction of a pier, use [Table 2-1](#) as a guide to constructing your pier:

Table 2-1 Recommended pier design specifications

Material	Concrete. Homogeneous, 50% Portland cement and 50% sieved sand (see Section 2.3.1 "Choosing the Right Concrete" on page 9).
Size	Large enough to fit all required seismometers, cables, and insulation.
Thickness	Within the range of 2 in. to 4 in. on top of bedrock.
Surface	Smooth, level, and clear of debris.
Decoupling	Decouple the pier from the vault walls (see Section 2.3.2 "Decoupling the Pier and Vault Walls" on page 9).

2.3.1 Choosing the Right Concrete

The concrete used in a seismic pier should be as homogeneous as possible to avoid inducing tilts from differing thermal coefficients of expansion. To create a homogeneous concrete mixture do not use any aggregates and ensure the concrete is free of air bubbles. Steel reinforcement is not necessary as strength is not a concern in seismic piers.

The recommended concrete mixture is 50 percent Portland cement and 50 percent sieved sand.¹ After pouring the concrete, shake it to allow trapped bubbles to escape. Allow 24-hours for the concrete to harden before positioning the seismometer on the pier.



The pier may generate spurious signals as the concrete cures, which can take two to four weeks.

2.3.2 Decoupling the Pier and Vault Walls

When setting up the concrete forms for the pier, include a gap between the edge of the concrete and the walls of the vault. Decoupling the pier and the vault walls prevents the transfer of non-seismic forces, such as wind, from the vault walls to the pier. Such forces can cause the pier to tilt or twist and obscure the desired seismic signal. These signals are mostly long period, so vault wall decoupling is critical for quiet site long period studies.

1. Bob Uhrhammer and Bill Karavas, *Guidelines for Installing Broadband Seismic Instrumentation* (Berkeley: The Regents of the University of California, 1997), <http://seismo.berkeley.edu/bdsn/instrumentation/guidelines.html>.

2.4 Site Record

Use the following table to record information about the site, including its structure, cultural environs, and climatic conditions. This information will be helpful in identifying changes to the site over time and for determining when mass recentering may be necessary due to temperature change.

Table 2-2 Record of installation site details

Site name (full name / station code / network code, for example, Yellowknife / YKN / CN):	Latitude:
	Longitude:
	Elevation:
	Date of installation (mm/dd/yyyy):
Type of installation (for example, vault, surface, other): _____ Depth below surface (m) _____ Height above sea level (m)	Length of installation: Permanent or temporary: If temporary, expected time frame (mm/dd/yyyy to mm/dd/yyyy):
Ground surface type (for example, rock, soil, sand, clay, other):	Distance to potential noise sources (km): _____ Airport or air traffic _____ Railway _____ Roads _____ Tall structures _____ Height (m) _____ Trees _____ Height (m) _____ Dwellings _____ Industrial site _____ Others (describe):
Seasonal temperature ranges (°C): _____ January 1 to March 31 _____ April 1 to June 30 _____ July 1 to September 30 _____ October 1 to December 31	
Notes:	

Chapter 3

Installing a Trillium 120P/PA

3.1 Alignment, Levelling, and Placement Features

To aid in the proper alignment of your seismometer, each Trillium 120P/PA has:

- ◆ Vertically-scribed marks on the north-south axis.
- ◆ A north-south guide on the top of the case.
- ◆ Two 5/16 in. diameter holes on the east-west axis for fitting alignment rods.

For convenience and accuracy, use of the north-south scribe marks or the north-south case-top guide are the preferred methods of alignment. Alternatively, for an east-west alignment, alignment rods are available from Nanometrics that you can fit into the 5/16 in. diameter holes on the east-west axis of the seismometer base. [Chapter 12 "Alignment Features and Dimensions"](#) provides illustrations that show the relative orientation of the north-south and east-west alignment features in both top and bottom views.

For levelling purposes, each Trillium 120P/PA seismometer is equipped with:

- ◆ Three adjustable-height feet with lock nuts.
- ◆ A levelling bubble on the case.

Trillium 120P/PA seismometers also come with a lifting handle that can be screwed into the top of the seismometer cover. The handle is provided to facilitate the placement of these seismometers in vaults that are only accessible from the top, or to carry the seismometer over short distances. Remove the handle when the seismometer installation is complete to allow for close-fitting insulation.



Do not use the lifting handle to carry your Trillium 120P/PA seismometer over long distances as the seismometer could gradually rotate and fall off of the handle.

Figure 3-1 shows the north scribe line on a Trillium 120P/PA aligned with a line drawn on the installation surface that is parallel to north-south. Also note one of the levelling feet, located to the right of the alignment marker, and the levelling bubble and north-south guide on the top of the case.

Figure 3-1 Example of seismometer alignment using vertically scribed marks



Figure 3-2 illustrates how to align a Trillium 120P/PA using a staked line and a ruler with the north-south guide on the top of the case.

Figure 3-2 Example of seismometer alignment using the north-south guide



3.2 Best Practices for Aligning and Levelling a Trillium 120P/PA

Following are best practices for aligning and levelling a Trillium 120P/PA using the vertically scribed marks on the north-south axis or the north-south guide on the top of the case:



If you are using an east-west alignment with the alignment rods, continue with these best practices, but substitute east-west with north-south and fit the alignment rods into the 5/16 in. diameter holes in the base of the seismometer instead of aligning the Trillium 120P/PA with the vertically scribed marks or the case-top guide.

- ◆ Prepare the north-south guideline using one of the following methods:
 - a) Using the north-south vertically scribed marks: Draw a line on the pier parallel to north-south.



This is the recommended alignment method if you are insulating your Trillium 120P/PA with the Nanometrics insulating cover (see [Section 3.4.1 "Insulating a Trillium 120P/PA with the Insulating Cover"](#) on page 16).

- b) Using the case-top north-south guide: Stake a line (for example, using fishing line) parallel to north-south, directly over the location where you want to install the Trillium 120P/PA.

The north-south line must be aligned to true north. If you are using a magnetic compass, account for the local magnetic declination when drawing the line. For underground installations, you can transfer north measured at the surface to below ground by traversing with survey equipment.

- ◆ If you are insulating the seismometer using the Trillium 120P/PA insulating cover, see [Section 3.5 "Installing a Trillium 120P/PA in the Insulating Cover"](#) on page 18 for instruction on aligning the foam base gasket of the cover and for placing the seismometer on the base.
- ◆ When you are ready to remove the Trillium 120P/PA seismometer from the box, gently place it on the installation surface in an approximate north-south alignment.
- ◆ Use the adjustable feet, as required, and the levelling bubble on the cover to level the seismometer. Centre the bubble as precisely as possible inside the black ring to ensure that the Z output is measuring true vertical motion.

Extend the levelling feet as little as possible to achieve a level seismometer. Try to keep one of the feet fully retracted into the seismometer base for greatest stability.

- ◆ When the Trillium 120P/PA is level, lock the feet by turning the lock nut up until it engages firmly with the base of the seismometer. A foot that is properly locked will not turn easily when touched.

- ♦ Precisely align the Trillium 120P/PA to north-south by:
 - a) Using the north-south vertically scribed marks: Align the vertical north-south scribe lines on the base of the seismometer (see [Figure 3-1 "Example of seismometer alignment using vertically scribed marks"](#) on page 12) with the line drawn on the installation surface.
 - b) Using the north-south guide: Align the case-top north-south guide to the staked line (see [Figure 3-2 "Example of seismometer alignment using the north-south guide"](#) on page 12).Care is required when aligning the seismometer to avoid sighting at an angle and introducing a parallax error.
- ♦ After aligning the seismometer, verify that it is still level. It may need to be adjusted due to unevenness of the installation surface.
- ♦ If you relevelled the Trillium 120P/PA, ensure the feet are locked when finished.

3.3 Theory and Practice of Insulation

Seismometer installations must be thermally insulated to achieve optimal performance, particularly at long periods. There are two broad categories of thermal effects that can cause unwanted noise:

a) Direct thermal sensitivity.

The Trillium 120P/PA is designed to minimize temperature sensitivity; however, like all seismometers, it has some residual thermal response. There are several components in a seismometer that are temperature sensitive, such as the springs that suspend the inertial masses. The effect of direct thermal sensitivity typically shows up as very long period noise on the vertical channel, in particular, a periodic diurnal variation in response to the day-to-night temperature cycle.

b) Thermally induced tilt.

All seismometers are susceptible to thermally induced tilt. Tilt converts the strong vertical acceleration of gravity into an apparent horizontal acceleration. There are many mechanisms for the conversion of temperature into tilt. For example:

- Movement of air surrounding the seismometer can cause non-uniform thermal expansion or contraction of the pier and the seismometer. Such effects typically have an apparent ground-motion spectrum that is peaked at long periods.
- Movement of anything touching the seismometer, including the digitizer cable and insulation materials, can cause forces to develop that change with temperature. Stick-slip effects typically transform these forces into sudden step changes in tilt. The apparent ground-motion power spectral density is, therefore, inversely proportional to the square of frequency.

For seismometers that are well temperature-compensated, such as the Trillium 120P/PA, but are improperly installed, thermally induced tilt on the horizontal channels will be more significant than direct thermal sensitivity on the vertical channel. Furthermore, due to the natural convection of air, thermally induced tilt is even observable in sealed underground vaults where the temperature is very stable.

Therefore, the objectives of a good installation are to:

- ♦ Insulate the seismometer from temperature changes.
- ♦ Prevent the movement of air on the surface of the seismometer.
- ♦ Insulate the pier from temperature changes.
- ♦ Prevent the movement of air on the surface of the pier, including the sides and underside of piers that consist of a slab raised above the vault floor.
- ♦ Prevent anything from touching and thereby applying a mechanical force to the seismometer.

To meet these objectives and achieve the best possible performance, observe the following practices:

- ♦ The vault (the space or room where the seismometer is installed) must provide a stable thermal environment. This environment is typically achieved through careful site selection (see [Chapter 2 "Selecting and Preparing a Site"](#)) and by installing the seismometer below ground.
- ♦ The digitizer cable must be flexible enough to bend without applying significant forces to the seismometer. Nanometrics provides ultra-flexible cables designed for this purpose (see [Section 1.4 "Trillium 120P/PA Optional Equipment"](#) on page 5).
- ♦ The insulation surrounding the seismometer must:
 - Have low thermal conductivity to insulate the seismometer from temperature changes.
 - Form a nearly airtight seal against the pier to block drafts.
 - Fit closely around the seismometer, eliminating space that may cause convection inside the cover.
 - Not touch the seismometer. The insulation is subject to temperature expansion and can exert measurable forces on the seismometer.

3.4 Insulation Options

There are two options for insulating a Trillium 120P/PA:

- a) Use the Nanometrics Trillium 120P/PA Insulating Cover (Nanometrics part number 16060). See also [Section 3.4.1 "Insulating a Trillium 120P/PA with the Insulating Cover"](#) on page 16. This is the recommended method.
- b) Make a freestanding cover out of rigid plastic foam that is sealed against air drafts, does not touch the seismometer, and minimizes the volume of air trapped between the insulating box and the seismometer. See also [Section 3.4.2 "Insulating a Trillium 120P/PA with a Rigid Foam Box"](#) on page 17.

Before proceeding with the implementation of thermal insulation, there are many aspects you must consider in the context of the particular site and type of installation. [Section 2.2 "Planning Your Installation"](#) on page 7 outlines common types of installations.

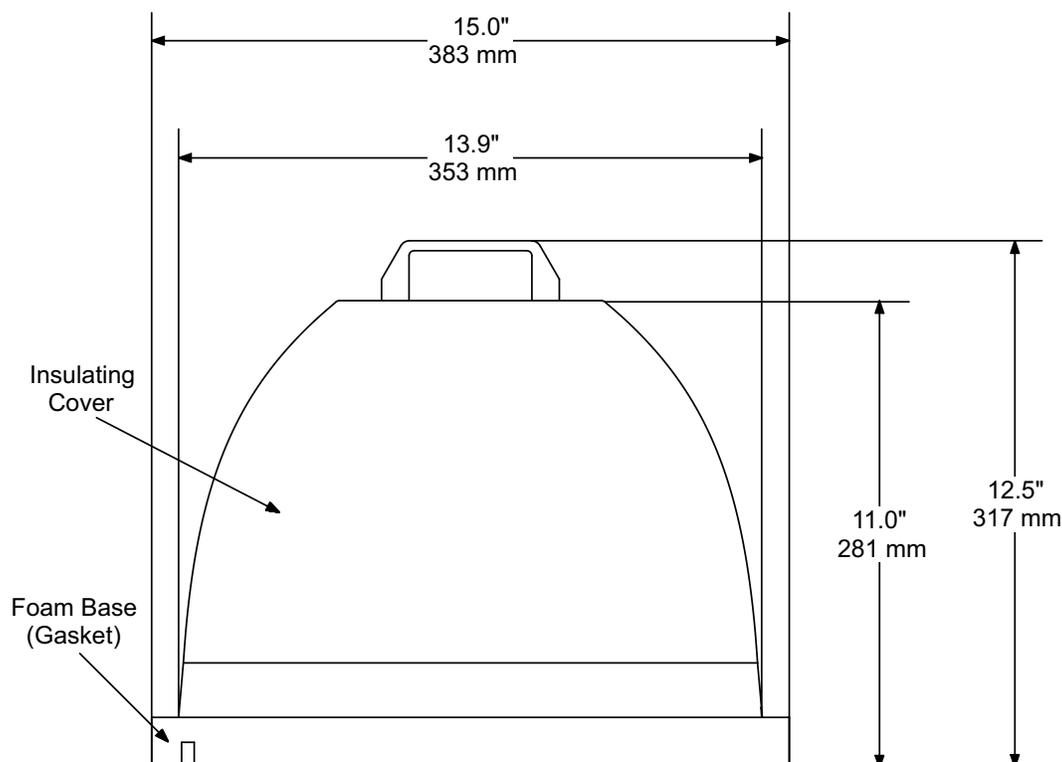
3.4.1 Insulating a Trillium 120P/PA with the Insulating Cover

Nanometrics recommends insulating your Trillium 120P/PA seismometer with its specially designed insulating cover, which, when properly installed, will attenuate temperature-induced long-period noise by up to 40 dB.

The insulating cover is a rugged, form-fitting cover and foam gasket that creates a close fit around a Trillium 120P seismometer without touching any part of the seismometer or the cable. When fitted over a seismometer, the cover creates a 5 mm air gap between itself and the seismometer. This gap reduces the potential for noise by preventing the cover or other objects from exerting force on the seismometer; by minimizing the amount of air trapped under the cover, thereby eliminating convection; and by providing a cable channel that reduces heat conduction through the cable.

The cover is made of rigid plastic filled with an insulating foam core and includes N (north) and S (south) alignment markings to aid in the proper placement of the cover. The foam gasket includes precut plugs for the seismometer feet, alignment sighting holes, and two cable outlet options.

Figure 3-3 Trillium 120P/PA seismometer insulating cover dimensions



3.4.2 Insulating a Trillium 120P/PA with a Rigid Foam Box

If you are not using the recommended Trillium 120P/PA Insulating Cover, insulate the seismometer with a rigid foam box. Use the following recommendations as a guide when constructing the box:



When installing a Trillium 120P/PA in a rigid foam insulating box, follow the best practices for aligning and levelling the seismometer that are outlined in [Section 3.2 “Best Practices for Aligning and Levelling a Trillium 120P/PA”](#) on page 13.

- ◆ Construct a five-sided box that is large enough to house the seismometer without touching the sides of the seismometer or the cable.

Preferably, use rigid foam insulation with foil on one or both sides. There are two advantages to the foil-coated foam: it has a higher insulation resistance and you can make the joints with aluminium tape, which is quicker and cleaner than glue.
- ◆ Use insulation that is at least 5 cm (2.0 in.) thick. Depending on the temperature stability of the site, additional or thicker boxes can be used.
- ◆ Cut a groove at the appropriate point in the bottom of the box to allow the seismometer cable to exit.
- ◆ Seal the box joints properly:
 - For rigid foam without a foil coating, glue the joints using polystyrene adhesive or polyurethane resin, taking care not to leave any gaps.
 - For rigid foam with a foil coating, tape the joints with aluminium tape, taking care not to leave any gaps.
- ◆ Ensure there is a good seal between the bottom edge of the box and the pier. Adhesive weatherstripping that is 1.25cm (0.5 in.) thick creates a good seal.
- ◆ Ensure the thermal insulation box is held firmly in place by setting a weight on top of it. A brick works well for this purpose.
- ◆ Strain relieve the cable to the pier, close to the seismometer. Tie-wraps with tie-wrap anchors or a heavy object are effective tools for achieving strain relief.

3.5 Installing a Trillium 120P/PA in the Insulating Cover

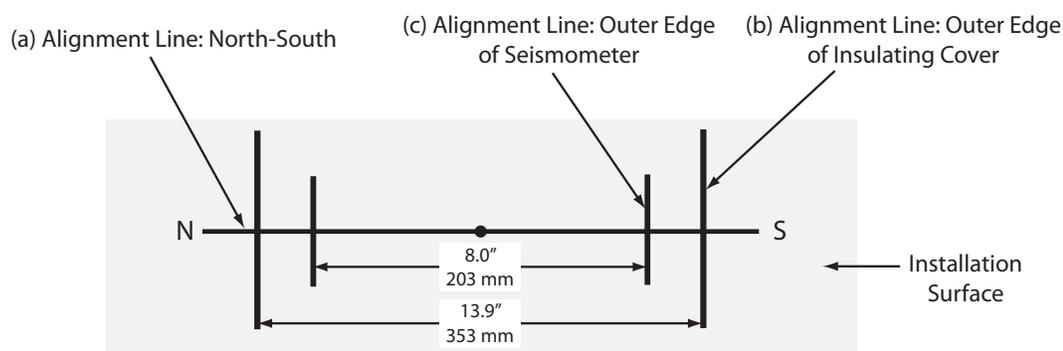
The following installation procedure is the recommended method for installing your insulating cover. This procedure involves placing alignment markers on your installation surface and aligning your seismometer and cover to these markers. The purpose of the markers is to ensure the cover is not touching the seismometer, connector, or cable once your installation is complete.



If you cannot apply the markers to your installation surface (for instance, the surface is rough or uneven), you can instead fit the cover over the seismometer and, by feel, ensure it is not touching the seismometer, connector, or cable. To do this, hold the cover slightly above the gasket so that it does not drag on the gasket when rotated. Gently rotate the cover until it lightly touches the connector, then rotate the cover by about 1 cm in the opposite direction and set it down on the gasket.

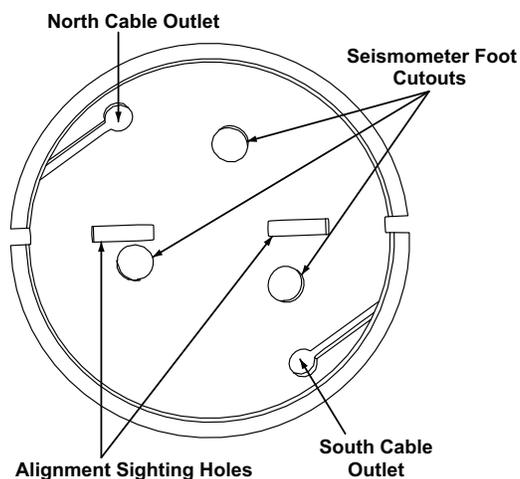
1. Prepare a flat installation surface.
2. Draw a north-south line (a) on the installation surface and add marks perpendicular to the north-south line for the (b) outer edges of the cover (not the gasket) and (c) the seismometer.

Figure 3-4 Alignment lines for installing the insulating cover



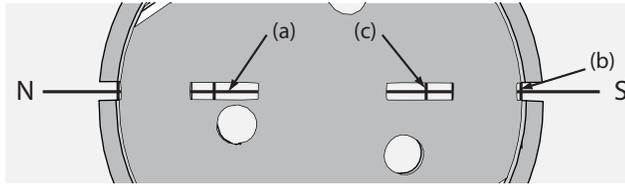
3. Remove the precut gasket plugs as required for your installation. Leave the plug for the unused cable outlet in the gasket to maintain a good seal.

Figure 3-5 Location of gasket plugs in the insulating cover



- Place the gasket on the installation surface, as illustrated in [Figure 3-6](#), so that

Figure 3-6 Insulating cover gasket placement on the installation surface



- The rectangular alignment sighting holes are roughly centred over the north-south alignment line (a).
 - The inner lip of the gasket is sitting on the lines (b) drawn for the outer edges of the cover.
 - The lines (c) drawn for the outer edges of the seismometer fall within the rectangular alignment sighting holes.
- Pull the cable through the selected gasket cable outlet. The north cable outlet is preferred as it allows a longer length of cable to be insulated by the cover.
When installing a Trillium 120P seismometer in an insulating cover, the cable must be a Nanometrics seismometer cable with a right-angled connector. The connector on all standard cables for Trillium seismometers is angled downward by about 30°, bringing the cable directly onto to the gasket and preventing it from touching the cover.
 - Place the seismometer in the gasket and align it with the lines drawn on the installation surface for the outer edges of the seismometer (see the lines marked (c) in [Figure 3-4](#) “Alignment lines for installing the insulating cover” on page 18). See also [Section 3.2](#) “Best Practices for Aligning and Levelling a Trillium 120P/PA” on page 13.
 - Connect the cable to the seismometer and place it on the gasket.



- Align the cable to the groove in the bottom edge of the cover, approximately 2.5 cm inside the gasket lip.

9. Place the cover over the seismometer and inside the gasket lip. Refer to [Figure 3-4](#) “Alignment lines for installing the insulating cover” on page 18 and orient the cover so that the notches at the bottom edge are aligned with the north-south line (a), and the sides are aligned with the markings on the installation surface for the cover edges (b).



It is very important that the cover and gasket do not touch the seismometer or cable connector. A continuous air gap is required for the Trillium 120P/PA to work properly.

10. Strain relieve the cable to the pier, close to the seismometer. Tie-wraps with tie-wrap anchors or a heavy object are effective tools for achieving strain relief.

Chapter 4

Post-Installation Activities

4.1 Grounding the Digitizer and Trillium 120P/PA

The digitizer and seismometer cases must have a low-resistance path to ground for safety. However, directly earthing both instruments will result in a ground loop. When the digitizer and seismometer are far apart, differences in ground potential may cause spurious signals to appear unless the loop is broken. The solution is to earth the digitizer case and isolate the seismometer case.

Trillium seismometers have stainless steel adjustable feet which, when mounted directly onto dry rock or concrete, provide a relatively high resistance to ground. In wet environments it may be necessary to mount the seismometer on a plate of glass embedded in sand. For more details on earthing the digitizer and seismometer, refer to the user guide for your digitizer.

4.2 Centring the Masses after Installation

For best results, centre the masses in your Trillium 120P/PA seismometers immediately after installation and levelling. For more information on how and when to centre the masses in your Trillium 120P/PA, see [Chapter 7 "Centring the Masses."](#)

4.3 Installation Checklist

Use the following checklist to help you verify that you have completed all of the necessary steps in the installation of your Trillium 120P/PA.

- Installation surface is clear of debris.
- Trillium 120P/PA is level.
- Trillium 120P/PA is aligned to east-west or north-south.
- The feet of the Trillium 120P/PA are locked.
- Trillium 120P/PA serial number is noted.
- Cable is connected to the Trillium 120P/PA and the digitizer.
- Cable is strain-relieved to the installation surface.
- Cable is not touching the Trillium 120P/PA case.

- ❑ Thermal insulation is in place.
- ❑ Thermal insulation is not touching the Trillium 120P/PA or cables.
- ❑ If using a rigid-foam insulating box, it is weighted down.
- ❑ Masses are centred.

4.4 Troubleshooting Your Installation

It is normal to see spikes in the horizontal channels of a Trillium 120P/PA as the seismometer settles after installation. However, if these spikes do not diminish after a few days, there may be a problem with the installation and the site should be visited to determine the cause of the spikes.

Table 4-1 lists common types of noise, including horizontal spikes, that may occur with a Trillium 120P/PA seismometer and reasons why the noise may be present.

Table 4-1 Types of noise and possible causes

Noise Type	Possible Cause
Spikes on the horizontal channels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The feet of the seismometer are not locked. ◆ There is a force pulling on the cable. ◆ There is something touching the sides of the seismometer.
Continuous low frequency wander (random noise, larger on horizontal channels)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Insulation is missing or not well sealed, allowing drafts to blow over the seismometer. ◆ There are forces, such as wind, acting on the installation.
Spikes on the vertical channel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Usually due to electrical system noise. For example, power supply noise from a battery charging circuit, or interference from a strong magnetic or radio source that is nearby.

Part 2

Operation

- ◆ Input and Output Signals
- ◆ Using a Nanometrics Digitizer with a Trillium 120P/PA
- ◆ Centring the Masses
- ◆ Setting Up Serial Port Communications

Chapter 5

Input and Output Signals

5.1 Digital Control Input Signals

Trillium 120P/PA seismometers have five digital control input signals: MC/RX, UVW/TX, U_CALEN, V_CALEN, and W_CALEN.

Each input is optically isolated from the input voltage, the output signals, and the calibration input signals. Therefore, signals applied to these pins must be referenced to DGND rather than \pm PWR or AGND.

All of the control input signals are active-high. Specifically, any voltage greater than 3.5 V at a current greater than 0.1 mA enables the relevant functionality, while any voltage less than 1 V or a high impedance disables it. All inputs can tolerate at least \pm 15 V except for UVW/TX which can tolerate voltages from -7 V to +15 V.

5.2 UVW and XYZ Output Signals

To account for the source impedance, see [Table 10-1 "Ground motion response nominal parameters"](#) on page 52. A control signal switches the Trillium 120P/PA output signal to either UVW output mode or XYZ output mode. The "natural" output is UVW where the outputs represent the actual motion of the three sensor component masses. The "conventional" seismometer output is XYZ where the outputs represent horizontal and vertical motion.

See [Table 5-1](#) for the polarities of the XYZ outputs and the correspondence of each to the directions of the compass.

Table 5-1 Axis orientation and polarity of XYZ outputs

Axis	Orientation	Positive Voltage
X	east-west	represents case motion to the east
Y	north-south	represents case motion to the north
Z	vertical	represents upward case motion

The seismometer will respond to changes in the type of output signal within 4 s. To select the

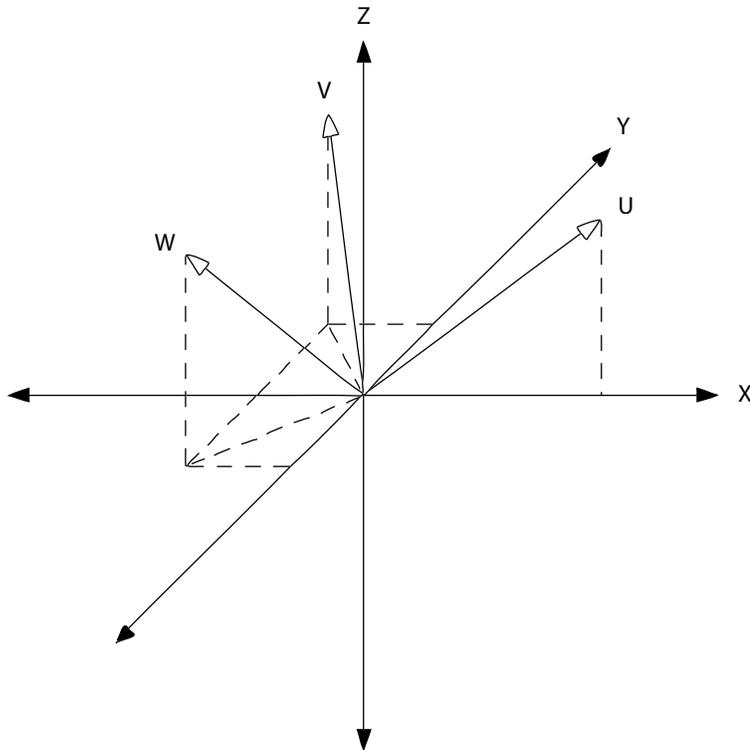
- ♦ UVW outputs, pull the UVW/TX pin high.
- ♦ XYZ outputs, leave the UVW/TX pin floating or set it to 0 V.



The UVW/TX input control signal is disabled when the seismometer is transmitting through a serial port because this pin is used as the RS-232 serial TX output signal. For more information on serial port communication with a Trillium 120P/PA, see [Chapter 8 "Setting Up Serial Port Communications."](#)

To understand the difference between the UVW and XYZ outputs, see [Figure 5-1](#). By design, the Trillium 120P/PA axes are identical and sense motion in orthogonal directions. The U axis is aligned with the east-west axis when projected into the horizontal plane.

Figure 5-1 Trillium 120P/PA axis orientation



This arrangement results in the following transformation equations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & \sqrt{2} \\ -1 & \sqrt{3} & \sqrt{2} \\ -1 & -\sqrt{3} & \sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{EQ 1})$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & \sqrt{3} & -\sqrt{3} \\ \sqrt{2} & \sqrt{2} & \sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{EQ 2})$$

The first equation is implemented mechanically in the Trillium 120P/PA through the orientation of the individual axes. The second equation is implemented electronically when the Trillium 120P/PA is in XYZ mode.

Alternatively, seismic data can be digitized with the Trillium 120P/PA seismometer in UVW mode and the transformation to horizontal and vertical signals being implemented when the data are processed. This method allows for studies and calibrations where both UVW and XYZ data are required.

5.3 Calibration Input Signals

Calibration input signals are provided to allow for relative calibration of the Trillium 120P/PA across frequency and over time.

Since the Trillium 120P/PA is a symmetric triaxial seismometer, calibration is best performed on the individual axes (UVW) rather than the horizontal and vertical outputs (XYZ). Individual axis outputs can be digitized by placing the seismometer in UVW mode. For instruction on how to set a Trillium 120P/PA to UVW mode, see [Section 5.2 "UVW and XYZ Output Signals"](#) on page 25.

Each axis has a separate calibration enable signal: U_CALEN, V_CALEN, W_CALEN. All of the axes use a common calibration input signal, CAL_SIG. See [Table 10-2 "Calibration input response nominal parameters"](#) on page 53 for sensitivity information.

5.4 State-of-Health Output Signals

Mass position output signals U_MP, V_MP, and W_MP are provided to monitor the effect of tilt and temperature on the spring that sets the rest position of the boom. As with the calibration signals, these signals represent the state of the individual axes (UVW) rather than the horizontal and vertical outputs (XYZ).

The mass positions are zeroed at the factory at room temperature with the Trillium 120P/PA perfectly level. If any of the mass positions are approaching ± 3.5 V, mechanical recentring should be initiated. Follow the mass centring procedure for your seismometer in [Chapter 7 "Centring the Masses."](#)

5.5 Power Consumption

The typical power consumption of Trillium 120P/PA seismometers under various operating conditions is given below. The numbers in brackets [] are for Trillium 120P/PA seismometers with serial numbers below 400.

- ◆ Under normal operation (the Trillium 120P/PA is level and well centred, there is a low seismic signal, the Trillium 120P/PA has settled for at least 30 minutes, and serial transmit is disabled), power consumption is approximately 620 mW [650 mW].
- ◆ On start-up, power consumption may briefly surge to 3.8 W [4.5 W].
- ◆ Power consumption above normal quiescent, after the initial power-on inrush, is roughly proportional to the output signal.

If the Trillium 120P/PA is not centred or has not yet settled, the output signals will be at the maximum, and power consumption may be as high as 2.1 W [3 W].

- ◆ For a settled, centred, and level Trillium 120P/PA, a seismic signal that approaches the maximum clip level of the seismometer may draw as much as a 1.75 W [2 W] peak (the average power consumption would be much lower).
- ◆ For Trillium 120PA seismometers, mass centring can momentarily draw up to 3.8 W [5 W] while the motors are operating.



For long cables, account for the resistive voltage drop due to the cable length and, if necessary, increase the voltage at the source.

For example, 50 m of 24 AWG wire has a resistance of 4.2 Ω in each direction. Therefore the voltage drop due to the possible 420 mA [500 mA] startup inrush at 9 V when mass centring would be 3.5 V [4.2 V], meaning that the power supply must be able to briefly supply 12.5 V [13.2 V] for this length of cable.

Chapter 6

Using a Nanometrics Digitizer with a Trillium 120P/PA

6.1 Using a Taurus Portable Seismograph with a Trillium 120P/PA

Refer to the user guide for your Taurus portable seismograph for complete instructions on using it with a seismometer. The instructions that follow are a guide to selecting the default configuration for a Trillium 120P/PA on your Taurus, using the Taurus graphical user interface on either the Taurus display screen or through a web browser. Nanometrics cable 16169-nM or cable 16163-nM (where n is the length of the cable in metres) can be used to connect a Trillium 120P/PA to a Taurus. See [Table 1-1 "List of Trillium 120P/PA optional equipment"](#) on page 5 for descriptions of these cables.

If you are using a version 3.x Taurus with a Trillium 120P or a Trillium 120PA seismometer

1. Log into the Taurus with either the tech or central user account.
2. Select **Configuration > Sensor Library**.
3. Select **Default Trillium 120P** from the list of seismometers.
-OR-
Select **Default Trillium 120PA** from the list of seismometers.
4. Select **Apply**.
5. Select **Commit**.

If you are using a version 2.x Taurus with a Trillium 120P or a Trillium 120PA seismometer

1. Log into the Taurus with either the tech or central user account.
2. Select **Advanced Configuration** from the **Status** menu.
3. Select **Browse** and navigate to the **sensors** folder of the Taurus software CD.
4. Select the appropriate configuration file for your seismometer, either Trillium120P.cfg or Trillium120PA.cfg.
5. Select **Upload**.
6. When the upload is complete, select **Apply**.
7. Select **Commit**.



For version 2.x Taurus, version 2.06.07 and beyond provide the configuration files for the Trillium 120P and Trillium 120PA seismometers on the Taurus software CD. Previous versions of the CD provide the Trillium120.cfg file, which is for Trillium 120P seismometers only.

6.2 Using a Trident Digitizer with a Trillium 120P/PA

Refer to the user guide for your Trident digitizer for complete instructions on using it with a seismometer. Nanometrics cable 16169-nM or cable 16163-nM (where n is the length of the cable in metres) can be used to connect a Trillium 120P/PA to a Trident digitizer. See [Table 1-1 "List of Trillium 120P/PA optional equipment"](#) on page 5 for descriptions of these cables.

Following are instructions for configuring your Trident and NaqsServer to work with a Trillium 120P/PA seismometer.

1. Match the settings on the **Configuration** tab of Nanometrics UI to those in the following table.

Nanometrics UI Configuration Tab		Value	Notes
Section	Setting		
Front End	Input Range	40 Vpp	
Sensor Control	High Voltage Level	+5 V	
	Calibration Mode	Voltage (active high)	
	Line 1 Level	Low	Low is equivalent to XYZ mode and High is equivalent to UVW mode.
	Line 2 Level	Low	Set to High for mass centring.
	Line 3 Level	Not used	

2. Ensure the NaqsServer Naqs.stn file contains the following information:

```
[ Sensor ]
TypeName = Trillium120          // predefined sensor - all fields mandatory
Model = Trillium120           // name of this prototype - may be same as model
SensitivityUnits = M/S        // sensor model name
Sensitivity = 4.804e+8        // units of ground motion: M, M/S or M/S**2
SensitivityFreq = 1.0         // counts per unit of ground motion
CalibrationUnits = VOLTS     // Frequency at which sensitivity is correct
CalCoilResistance = 9200     // calibration input units: VOLTS or AMPS
CalCoilConstant = 100       // calibration coil resistance in ohms
CalEnable = -1               // Calibration units per m/s/s
CalRelay = 0                 // digital enable signal for calibration
MassCenterEnable = -1       // analog relay for calibration (0 = use channel number)
CalSource = Trident         // digital enable signal for mass centering
                             // duration of mass centering signal (optional)
                             // gives the source of the cal signal
```

6.3 Increasing System Sensitivity

If increased system sensitivity is required for either the Taurus or Trident, decrease the digitizer input range and increase the sensitivity. Use [Table 6-1](#) as a guide.



Increasing the sensitivity of a digitizer by decreasing the input range can cause the digitizer to clip. For example, there is a high potential for clipping if the digitizer input is reduced to 2 Vpp and the Trillium 120P/PA has a 40 Vpp output.

Table 6-1 Increasing system sensitivity

Digitizer Input Range	Digitizer Software Gain	Digitizer Sensitivity	Trillium 120P/PA Sensitivity	System Sensitivity (Counts/(m/s))
40 Vpp	1	0.4 count / μ V	1201 V/(m/s)	4.804e+8
16 Vpp	1	1 count / μ V	1201 V/(m/s)	1.201e+9
8 Vpp	1	2 count / μ V	1201 V/(m/s)	2.402e+9
4 Vpp	1	4 count / μ V	1201 V/(m/s)	4.804e+9
2 Vpp	1	8 count / μ V	1201 V/(m/s)	9.608e+9

Chapter 7

Centring the Masses

7.1 About Mass Centring

Trillium 120P/PA seismometers have three analog voltage outputs representing the DC currents applied to each of the three channel feedback coils. These are the mass position outputs, which cover a range of ± 4 V. Zero volts means the moving mass would be perfectly balanced if there was no force feedback. An offset in the mass position voltage means that the equilibrium position of the mass has moved off centre and a small DC feedback current is being applied to hold the mass at its centre operating point. The Trillium 120P/PA is not subject to any significant degradation in performance until one or more mass positions exceed approximately ± 3.5 V. This value represents the limit of available current to the force feedback coil. When this limit is exceeded, the main velocity output signal will drift to the rail and cease to provide useful information about ground motion.

The mass centring process itself introduces large glitches with the ground motion signal for about 1 minute while the axes are rebalanced. Therefore, to prevent data loss, you should only recentre the seismometer when necessary. The recommended best practice regarding mechanical mass centring is to periodically check the three axis mass positions (analog signals U_MP, V_MP, and W_MP, referenced to AGND) and initiate mass centring if any are approaching ± 3.5 V.

Mass positions in seismometers can drift over time for two reasons:

a) Tilt

Circumstances such as compaction of soil, changes in moisture, frost heaving, or the expansion of structures in hot sun may cause the ground under the seismometer to tilt.

b) Temperature

Some climates experience vast temperature changes between seasons. Such drastic changes in temperature can cause seismometer masses to become decentred.

These two phenomena are easily distinguished. Simply speaking, the effects of temperature appear in the sum of all of the mass positions, while the effects of tilt appear in the differences between mass positions. You can use the equations in [Section 5.2 "UVW and XYZ Output Signals"](#) on page 25 to convert UVW to XYZ mass positions. Changes in the Z mass position correspond to changes in internal temperature, while changes in the X and Y mass positions correspond to tilt towards the east and north, respectively.

The mass positions in Trillium 120P/PA seismometers have low sensitivity to both tilt and temperature and usually do not require recentring after the initial installation:

- ♦ The tilt range of a Trillium 120P/PA before recentring is required is $\pm 0.2^\circ$, corresponding to a change in slope of ± 3.5 mm per m. This tilt range is enough to accommodate instability of the ground, even in a temporary field deployment, as long as basic care is taken to ensure a stable mounting surface for the seismometer.
- ♦ The temperature sensitivity of the mass positions in Trillium 120P/PA seismometers is less than 0.05 V per $^\circ\text{C}$, which is low enough to endure significant seasonal temperature changes without requiring recentring.

As one or more of the masses in a Trillium 120P/PA seismometer approach the range limit of ± 4 V, the seismometer is subject to some degradation in performance. Low frequency self-noise increases by approximately 2 dB per V of mass position. Below ± 1 V, the effect on noise is negligible. However, as the mass positions approach ± 4 V, the noise level goes up to -173 dB $\text{m}^2/\text{s}^4/\text{Hz}$ at 100 s period. Depending on the site and the type of study being conducted, this increase in the noise level may or may not be an issue.

Although it is unlikely that recentring will be required in Trillium 120P/PA seismometers after the initial installation, it is good practice to check mass positions when visiting the installation site. You can also use Nanometrics systems and software to remotely monitor the mass positions in Trillium 120P/PA seismometers.

For Trillium 120PA seismometers, you can remotely recentre the masses using Nanometrics systems and software. Automatic recentring is also an option by configuring a Taurus portable seismograph to automatically recentre the seismometer whenever one or more of the mass positions exceed a preset threshold. See [Chapter 6 "Using a Nanometrics Digitizer with a Trillium 120P/PA"](#) for information on setting up a Taurus portable seismograph to work with a Trillium 120P/PA.

7.2 Choosing When to Initiate Mass Centring

Following are circumstances when you should mechanically centre the masses in Trillium 120P/PA seismometers:

- ♦ Immediately following installation and levelling.
- ♦ When the voltage of any of the three axis mass positions (analog signals U_MP, V_MP, and W_MP, referenced to AGND) approach ± 3.5 V.

7.3 Centring the Masses in Trillium 120PA Seismometers

Trillium 120PA seismometers have an automated mechanical mass centring capability that uses a precision stepper motor to centre the boom of the pendulum of each axis exactly at the null point. The motor adjusts the tension on the spring supporting the boom to compensate for tilt and changes in ambient temperature. After initial mass centring (spring adjustment), the seismometer keeps the pendulum at the null point by passing current through a force feedback coil. This allows it to accommodate a certain range of tilt and temperature without recentring.

7.3.1 Initiating Mass Centring Using a Standard Cable and Digitizer

The following instructions explain how to initiate mass centring using a standard cable (see [Table 1-1 "List of Trillium 120P/PA optional equipment"](#) on page 5 for information on the cable options offered by Nanometrics) and a Nanometrics Taurus portable seismograph, a Nanometrics Trident digitizer, or a third party digitizer. The time for the operation to complete varies from a few seconds up to 5 minutes, but typically takes less than 1 minute.

1. Check the voltage readings on the mass position outputs for each of the three channels (signals U_MP, V_MP, and W_MP, referenced to AGND) to determine whether mass centring is required. If any of the mass position outputs exceed ± 3.5 V, continue with the mass centring procedure.



If you have a Taurus, check the mass position status on the **Sensor** page. If you have a networked Trident, check the mass position status on the Nanometrics UI **Trident > Operation > Instrument** page or on the NaqsView **View > Mass Position and Centering** page. See the user guides for these products for more information.

2. Initiate mass centring using the option that best meets your hardware and software configuration:
 - a) If you are using a Taurus, configure the Taurus for a Trillium 120PA (see [Section 6.1 "Using a Taurus Portable Seismograph with a Trillium 120P/PA"](#) on page 29) and select **Centre**  on the **Sensor** page using the Taurus graphical user interface on either the Taurus display screen or through a web browser. See the Taurus user guide for more information on using this feature.
 - b) If you have a networked Trident and a laptop equipped with NaqsServer and NaqsView (see [Section 6.2 "Using a Trident Digitizer with a Trillium 120P/PA"](#) on page 30), select **Mass Center**  on the NaqsView **View > Mass Position and Centering** page. See the Trident and NaqsView user guides for more information.



NaqsView requires a password to connect to NaqsServer. You can find this password in the Naqs.ini file, which is located in the /user folder of your NaqsServer installation location.

- c) If you have a networked Trident with Nanometrics UI, set Line 2 Level to High and pull the MC/RX pin high, referenced to DGND (pin R), for at least 1 s. See the Trident and Nanometrics UI user guides for more information.
 - d) If you have a third-party digitizer, pull the MC/RX pin high, referenced to DGND (pin R), for at least 1 s.
3. Check the voltage readings on the mass position outputs again to confirm that the masses are now within the ± 0.3 V range.



The Trillium 120PA automatically changes to SP mode during the centring operation, and is automatically returned to its previous state when the centring operation is complete.

7.3.2 Initiating Mass Centring using a Serial Cable and Laptop

Another option for initiating mass centring is through a direct serial connection between a Trillium 120PA and a laptop. [Chapter 8 "Setting Up Serial Port Communications"](#) provides instruction on configuring the serial connection and a list of the serial commands.

Once the serial connection is established and the serial port is configured, issue the following commands in the RS-232 digital interface to check the status of the mass position outputs and centre the mass.

1. Issue a `He1p` command to activate serial communications.
2. Issue an `SOH` command to check the voltage readings on the mass position outputs for each of the three channels (signals `U_MP`, `V_MP`, and `W_MP`, referenced to AGND) to determine whether mass centring is required. If any of the mass position outputs are approaching ± 3.5 V, mechanical mass centring should be initiated.
3. Issue a `Center` command to begin centring the masses.
4. Issue another `SOH` command to confirm that the masses are now within ± 0.3 V.

7.4 Centring the Masses in Trillium 120P Seismometers

Use the following procedure to centre the masses on a Trillium 120P seismometer. This procedure requires a 2.0 mm hex screwdriver with a long shaft and a 2.5 mm hex screwdriver. Both screwdrivers are supplied in the Trillium Maintenance Kit that ships with the seismometer.

1. Check the voltage readings on the mass position outputs for each of the three channels (signals `U_MP`, `V_MP`, and `W_MP`, referenced to AGND) to determine whether mass centring is required. If any of the mass position outputs exceed ± 3.5 V, continue with the mass centring procedure.



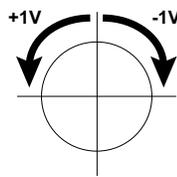
If you have a Taurus, check the mass position status on the **Sensor** page. If you have a networked Trident, check the mass position status on the Nanometrics UI **Trident > Operation > Instrument** page or on the NaqView **View > Mass Position and Centering** page. See the user guides for these products for more information.

2. Set the Trillium 120P to SP mode using one of the following methods:
 - a) Pull the MC/RX control signal (pin C) high (+5 V to +15 V) referenced to digital ground (DGND) (pin R). The MC/RX pin must remain high for the seismometer to be in SP mode.
 - b) Use the interface for a connected Taurus or Trident.
 - i. If you have a Taurus, go to the **Sensor** page and select SP mode.
 - ii. If you have a networked Trident with Nanometrics UI, set Line 2 Level to High and pull the MC/RX pin high, referenced to DGND (pin R), for at least 1 s. See the Trident and Nanometrics UI user guides for more information.
 - c) Use the serial port to issue a `ShortPer` command (see also [Section Chapter 8 "Setting Up Serial Port Communications"](#)).

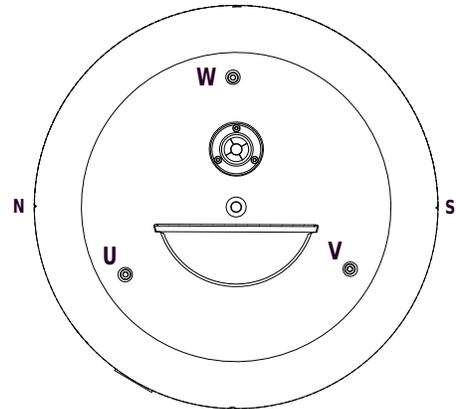
3. Locate and remove the access seal screw corresponding to the channel of interest (a channel where the mass position voltage is approaching or above ± 3.5 V):
 - a) Using the 2.5 mm hex screwdriver, remove the appropriate seal screw.
 - b) Inspect the O-ring for damage such cuts or pitting and replace the seal screw with a new one from the maintenance kit if there appears to be damage.
 - c) Place the seal screw where it will remain clean during the mass centring procedure.

4. With the seal screw removed centre the mass for the selected channel:

- a) Insert the 2.0 mm hex screwdriver straight into the hole until it engages with the mass position adjustment screw head.
- b) Monitor the mass position output while adjusting the screw by small increments.



Clockwise adjustments of a mass position adjustment screw results in negative changes in the mass position output, and counter-clockwise adjustments result in positive changes. One quarter turn is approximately equal to ± 1 V. When the mass position output is less than ± 0.3 V, the adjustment is complete.



If the mass position output voltage does not change when you turn the screw, check the following three conditions:

- iii. Ensure you are adjusting the channel corresponding to the mass position output you are monitoring.
 - iv. Ensure the seismometer is in SP mode. In LP mode the mass position outputs change too slowly to be useful in mass centring.
 - v. If the mass position output is greater than ± 3.5 V, ensure the seismometer is precisely levelled and that you are turning the screw in the correct direction.
5. Using the 2.5 mm hex screwdriver, replace the seal screw, tightening it to hand-tight, or 9 inch-pounds.
 6. Return the seismometer to LP mode using one of the following methods:
 - a) Set the MC/RX control signal (pin C) low (0 V) referenced to digital ground (DGND)(pin R).
 - b) Use the interface for a connected Taurus or Trident.
 - i. If you have a Taurus, go to the **Sensor** page and select LP mode.
 - ii. If you have a networked Trident with Nanometrics UI, set Line 2 Level to Low. See the Trident and Nanometrics UI user guides for more information.
 - c) Use the serial port to issue a `LongPer` command (see also [Chapter 8 "Setting Up Serial Port Communications."](#)).

Chapter 8

Setting Up Serial Port Communications

8.1 Connecting to and Configuring the Serial Port

Use the following steps to connect the Trillium 120P/PA to the serial port of a communications device (such as a computer) and configure serial port communications.

1. Connect an appropriate RS-232 communications device to the seismometer by connecting its TX pin to the MC/RX signal (pin C) and its RX pin to the UVW/TX signal (pin D).



Be sure to take appropriate precautions for signal shielding and grounding to avoid introducing unwanted noise into the seismometer or onto adjacent signal wires in the cable, or the seismic signal from the seismometer may become noisy.

2. Set the serial port on the communicating device to use this configuration:
 - Speed: 9600 baud
 - Data bits: 8
 - Parity: None
 - Stop bits: 1
 - Flow control: Xon/Xoff
3. If you are using a terminal emulator program, enable these settings:
 - Echo typed characters locally: The Trillium 120P/PA seismometer serial port does not echo received characters on its transmit port.
 - Send line ends with line feeds (or equivalent): The serial port expects all commands to be terminated with the "carriage return" character (ASCII 0x0D).
4. Once the seismometer is powered up and an appropriate serial device connected as above, send the characters `Tx<CR>` (<CR> denotes the carriage return character). Note that the serial commands are not case-sensitive; `Tx`, `TX`, and `tx` are equivalent. After a delay of 3 seconds the seismometer will enable the UVW/TX output and transmit `Serial Transmit Enabled<LF><CR>`.
5. To view help on the commands, send the help command (`Help<CR>`) to get the seismometer to transmit a help page, displaying the various commands and syntax.

8.2 Serial Port Commands

The following table describes each of the serial port commands.

Table 8-1 Serial port commands

Command	Description
Help - Repeat this menu (also turns on Serial TX)	Use the <code>Help</code> command to view the list of commands. The first line identifies the firmware version in use, and whether it is Program A or Program B. The <code>Help</code> command also turns on the TX signal if it has not already been turned on (after a delay of three seconds). It is the only command other than <code>Tx</code> that will enable the seismometer's serial transmit signal.
Tx - Enable the Serial Transmit Signal	The <code>Tx</code> command turns on the seismometer's serial transmit signal (signal UVW/TX, pin D) after a delay of three seconds, and sends the message <code>Serial Transmit Enabled<LF><CR></code> . The serial transmit port stays enabled until turned off by the <code>TxOff</code> command or by cycling the power to the seismometer. In this mode, the UVW/TX pin must not be used as an input pin for UVW mode.
TxOff - Disable the Serial Transmit Signal	The <code>TxOff</code> command turns off the seismometer's serial transmit signal (signal UVW/TX, pin D) and then waits three seconds. After the three-second delay, this pin will be interpreted as the UVW mode input pin.
Upload - Upload software to the alternate program	Caution: DO NOT use the <code>Upload</code> command unless specifically directed to do so by Nanometrics Technical Support. This command erases the firmware in the alternate partition. The <code>Upload</code> command uploads a new version of firmware to the firmware partition (A or B) that is not currently running.
Switch - Switch to the alternate program	There are two instances of firmware loaded in the Trillium 120P/PA seismometer, which can be the same version or different versions, one loaded in partition A, the other in partition B. The seismometer will run the firmware from the default partition on power up. Use the <code>Switch</code> command to immediately switch to the firmware in the other partition. It does not change which partition is the default, meaning that when the seismometer is power cycled, it will start up in the default partition. For example, if the default partition is B and the <code>Switch</code> command is executed, then partition A firmware is run immediately. When the seismometer is powered off and then on again, it then switches back to running Partition B firmware. ♦ Use the <code>Checksum</code> command to ensure there is valid code in both partitions before switching.

Table 8-1 Serial port commands

Command	Description
Default - Set the current program as default	Use the <code>Default</code> command to set the running firmware partition to be the default partition loaded at power up. For example, if the seismometer is running partition A by default on power up, to change to running partition B instead, the procedure is: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Execute the <code>SOH</code> command to verify that partition A is running. 2. Execute the <code>Checksum</code> command to verify that there is valid code in both partitions. 3. Execute the <code>Switch</code> command to change to running partition B, and the <code>SOH</code> command to verify that the new firmware is running. 4. Execute the <code>Default</code> command to set partition B to be the default on power up.
Reboot - Reboot the instrument	Use the <code>Reboot</code> command to restart the firmware.
GetInfo - Get factory configuration information ReadFC - Read factory calibration parameters	Use the <code>GetInfo</code> and <code>ReadFC</code> commands to read factory information stored in the Trillium 120P/PA seismometer. Factory configuration information includes model, version, and serial numbers; and other factory information for the unit, axes, and various circuit boards in the seismometer. This information is primarily used by Nanometrics Technical Support. Factory calibration parameters may include such information as measured sensitivity and transfer function.
WriteUC - Write user calibration parameters	Use the <code>WriteUC</code> command to upload calibration results from a text file.
ReadUC - Read the user calibration parameters	Use the <code>ReadUC</code> command to display calibration information stored using the <code>WriteUC</code> command.

Table 8-1 Serial port commands

Command	Description
SOH - Report state-of-health	<p>Use the SOH command to view state-of-health information as listed below.</p> <pre data-bbox="748 327 1409 667"> <SOH> <Manufacture>"Nanometrics, Inc."</Manufacture> <Product>"Trillium Firmware"</Product> <Version>3.30</Version> <Temperature>26.22</Temperature> <Mass>U=0.030 V=0.497 W=0.063</Mass> <Adc>U=14 V=225 W=29</Adc> <Modes>Period=Long Channel=XYZ</Modes> <Positions>U=380 V=-66 W=-110</Positions> <Zeros>U=0 V=0 W=0</Zeros> <Range>U=7043 V=7371 W=7151</Range> </SOH> </pre> <ul data-bbox="708 684 1414 1675" style="list-style-type: none"> • <Version> – The version of the firmware that is currently running. • <Temperature> – The temperature near the main electronics circuit board, which is located in a chamber near the top of the seismometer. The temperature of the axes is probably different from this temperature. • The mass positions for each axis (U, V, W). These are reported in two forms: <ul data-bbox="737 940 1414 1119" style="list-style-type: none"> • <Mass> – decimal numbers with a ± 4.2 range that roughly corresponds to the output voltage at the U_MP, V_MP, and W_MP signals. • <ADC> – proportional integer numbers with a range of ± 1900. The <ADC> number is about 452 times the <Mass> decimal number. • <Modes> – The seismometer modes are reported, including whether the seismometer is in long period or short period mode, and whether the seismic signals are output in XYZ or UVW mode. • The <Range>, <Positions>, and <Zeros> numbers pertain to the mass recentring stepper motors: <ul data-bbox="737 1318 1414 1675" style="list-style-type: none"> • The <Range> number is the full range in steps the mass positioning stepper motor can traverse between the two optical limit switches. This is measured and set at the factory for each axis. • The <Positions> number is the current position of the stepper motor relative to the midpoint of the total range. A number close to zero means the mass positioning mechanism is near the midpoint of the range and has lots of room for further adjustment. A positive or negative number close to half the <Range> number means the mass positioning mechanism is near to the limit of its adjustment range. <p data-bbox="708 1688 1414 1829">The <Zeros> number is the position of the stepper motor which corresponds to the seismometer being level. If the <Position> number is close to the <Zeros> number for all axes, the seismometer is close to nominally level. The <Zeros> number is set at the factory for each axis.</p>

Table 8-1 Serial port commands

Command	Description
<p>ShortPer - Set sensor to short period mode</p> <p>LongPer - Set sensor to long period mode</p>	<p>Use the <code>ShortPer</code> and <code>LongPer</code> commands to set the electronic mass centring response of the seismometer to short period or to long period respectively.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Short period is used when mechanically recentring the masses, and is automatically invoked when the mass recentring is initiated. (The prior mode is restored when mass centring completes.) ♦ Long period mode is the normal mode for collecting seismic data, and is essential to obtain the low frequency broadband performance. <p>Short period mode is useful to see the mass positions respond quickly (signals <code>U_MP</code>, <code>V_MP</code>, <code>W_MP</code>, or the <code>SOH <Mass></code> or <code><ADC></code> values) when the seismometer is being levelled. In long period mode these numbers ramp very slowly, and so, care must be taken to not be misled by apparently centred values when in fact the seismometer is not centred. In short period mode, these numbers respond within a second. The seismometer always powers up in long period mode.</p> <p>Long period is the normal response for a 240 second lower corner frequency.</p>
<p>SetXYZ - Set sensor to XYZ mode</p> <p>SetUVW - Set sensor to UVW mode</p>	<p>Use the <code>SetXYZ</code> and <code>SetUVW</code> commands to set the seismic output signals to the conventional XYZ (horizontal and vertical) mode, or to the “natural” UVW mode in which the output of each axis is given directly. XYZ mode is the default. Note that this mode is also set by the UVW/TX input line when the seismometer is not in Serial Transmit mode. The seismometer responds to whichever command (serial port or control line) last signalled a change.</p>
<p>Center - Centre all masses or (u, v, w)</p> <p>The <code>Center</code> command is only applicable to Trillium 120PA seismometers.</p>	<p>You can use the <code>Center</code> Command with or without parameters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Without parameters, <code>Center</code> initiates mass centring for all channels, which can also be initiated by pulling the MC/RX pin high for at least 1 second (referenced to DGND). ♦ With a parameter (u, v, or w), <code>Center</code> will centre the specified axis without disturbing the other axes; for example, <code>Center v</code> centres the V axis only.
<p>Checksum - Print checksum values for both program A and B</p>	<p>Use the <code>Checksum</code> command to check the firmware checksums of both partitions and what they should be. This is useful to ensure there is valid code in each partition (for example, before switching to the alternate firmware partition).</p>

Part 3

Reference

- ◆ [Specifications](#)
- ◆ [Transfer Function](#)
- ◆ [Connector and Cables](#)
- ◆ [Alignment Features and Dimensions](#)
- ◆ [Glossary](#)
- ◆ [About Nanometrics](#)

Chapter 9

Specifications

9.1 Technology

Table 9-1 Technology specifications

Topology	Symmetric triaxial
Feedback	Coil-magnet force feedback with capacitive transducer
Mass Centring	Trillium 120P: Operates over full temperature range without manual recentring; manual centring control included Trillium 120PA: Automatic mechanical recentring, can be remotely initiated
Levelling	Integrated bubble level, adjustable locking levelling feet
Alignment	Vertical scribe marks for north-south Case-top north-south guide for straight-edge, line, or laser level 5/16 in. diameter holes on east-west axis for alignment rods

9.2 Interface

Table 9-2 Interface specifications

Connector	19-pin MIL-C-26482, mounted on base
Velocity output	Selectable XYZ (east, north, vertical) or UVW mode 40 Vpp differential
Mass position output	Three independent ± 4.5 V outputs for UVW
Calibration input	Remote calibration in XYZ or UVW mode One voltage input for all channels Three separate control signals to enable U, V, or W channels
Control input	Isolated active-high referenced to DGND
Serial port	RS-232 compatible For instrument control and retrieval of configuration information

9.3 Physical

Table 9-3 Physical specifications

Diameter	21.0 cm
Height	18.2 cm without levelling feet 20.9 cm with levelling feet fully retracted 21.8 cm with levelling feet fully extended
Weight	7.2 kg
Handling	Detachable lifting handle included
Parasitic resonances	None below 130 Hz

9.4 Power

Table 9-4 Power specifications

Supply voltage	9 V to 36 V DC isolated input at connector
Power consumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ For serial numbers 400 and above: 620 mW at 12 V typical, under normal operating conditions ◆ For serial numbers 1 to 399: 650 mW at 12 V typical, under normal operating conditions <p>For power consumption under other operating conditions such as startup and mass centring, see Section 5.5 "Power Consumption" on page 28.</p>
Protection	Reverse-voltage protected Self-resetting over-current protection No fuse to replace

9.5 Performance

Table 9-5 Performance specifications

Self-noise	See Figure 10-2 "Trillium 120P/PA self-noise" on page 54
Sensitivity	Within $\pm 0.5\%$ of nominal. See Table 10-1 "Ground motion response nominal parameters" on page 52
Bandwidth	-3 dB points are 120 s and 175 Hz
Transfer function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Lower corner poles within $\pm 0.5\%$ of nominal provided ◆ High-frequency poles and zeros within $\pm 5\%$ of nominal provided ◆ See Figure 10-1 "Bode plot for Trillium 120P/PA seismometers" on page 51
Clip level	15 mm/s peak-to-peak differential up to 1.5 Hz (see Figure 10-3 "Trillium 120P/PA performance" on page 55)
Lower corner damping relative to critical	0.707
Output impedance	$2 \times 150 \Omega \pm 1\%$
Temperature	$\pm 45^\circ\text{C}$ without recentring
Tilt	Operational tilt range $\pm 1.5^\circ$
Dynamic tilt	Maximum tilt without recentring $\pm 0.2^\circ$

9.6 Environmental

Table 9-6 Environmental specifications

Operating temperature	–20°C to 50°C
Storage temperature	–40°C to 70°C
Pressure	Enclosure optimized to be insensitive to atmospheric variations
Humidity	0% to 100%
Shock	20g half sine, 5ms without damage, 6 axes No mass lock required for transport
Weather resistance	Rated to IP68 and NEMA 6P for outdoor use, dust, and immersion resistance

Chapter 10

Transfer Function

10.1 Frequency Response

Figure 10-1 is a bode plot that shows the nominal ground motion, calibration input circuit, and combined calibration response for Trillium 120P/PA seismometers.

In this figure:

- ◆ The nominal ground motion frequency response of the seismometer is shown as a solid red line.
- ◆ The calibration input circuit response is shown as a dash-dotted green line and behaves effectively as a simple low-pass circuit in series with the ground motion response.
- ◆ During calibration, the sensor calibration response is the combination of the two lines referenced above and is shown as a dashed blue line.

Figure 10-1 Bode plot for Trillium 120P/PA seismometers

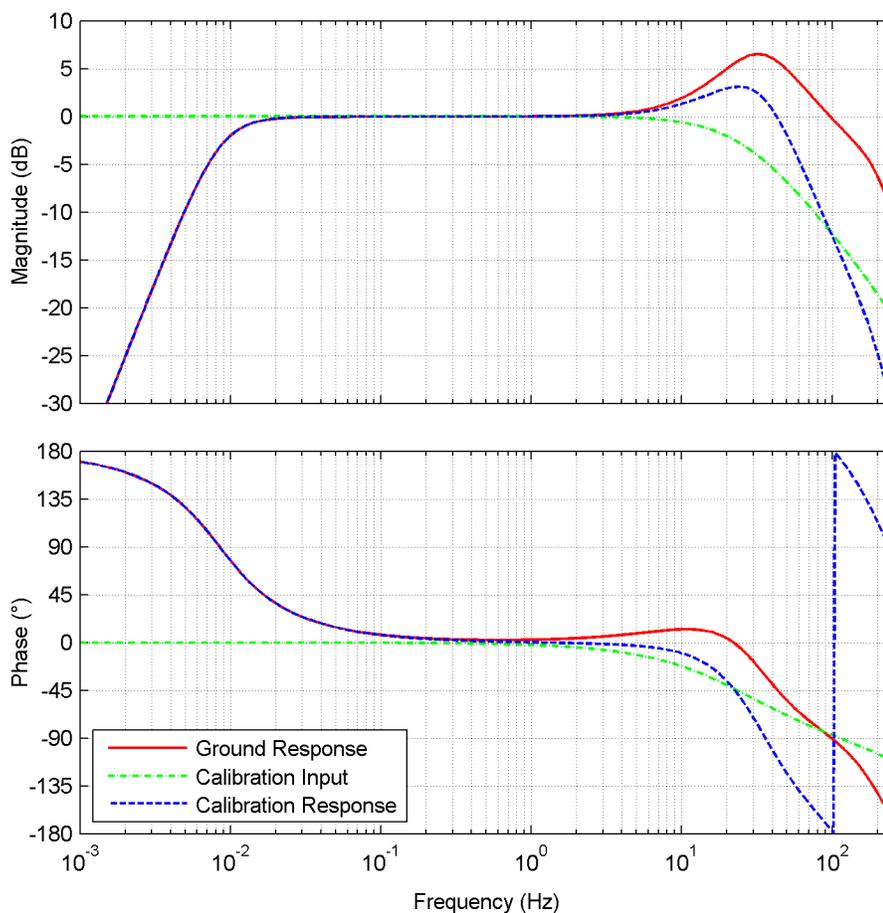


Table 10-1 provides the ground motion response nominal parameters. The ground motion response has -3 dB corners at 114.8 s and 146 Hz. The ground motion sensitivity at f_0 specified in Table 10-1 assumes an infinite input impedance at the digitizer. For digitizers with low input impedance, it will become necessary to account for the fact that source impedance of the differential outputs is 300 Ω , ± 1 percent (150 Ω for each output).

Table 10-1 Ground motion response nominal parameters

Symbol	Parameter	Nominal Values	Units
z_n	Zeros	0 0 -90.0 -160.7 -3108	rad/s
p_n	Poles	-0.03852 \pm 0.03658i -178 -135 \pm 160i -671 \pm 1154i	rad/s
k	Normalization factor	3.080 \times 10 ⁵	(rad/s) ²
f_0	Normalization frequency	1	Hz
S	Ground motion sensitivity at f_0	1201	V s/m

The seismometer sensitivity (S), poles (p_n), and zeros (z_n) define the transfer function according to this equation:

$$F(s) = S \cdot k \cdot \frac{\prod_n (s - z_n)}{\prod_n (s - p_n)} \quad (\text{EQ 1})$$

Where the normalization factor (k) is defined by

$$k = \frac{1}{\frac{\prod_n (i \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot f_0 - z_n)}{\prod_n (i \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot f_0 - p_n)}} \quad (\text{EQ 2})$$

and is given for informational purposes only.

The calibration input response nominal parameters are given in [Table 10-2](#).

Table 10-2 Calibration input response nominal parameters

Symbol	Parameter	Nominal Values	Units
z_n	Zeros		rad/s
p_n	Poles	-323 -2530	rad/s
k	Normalization factor	4.998×10^5	(rad/s) ²
f_0	Normalization frequency	1	Hz
S	Calibration input sensitivity at f_0	0.01023	(m/s ²)/V

The calibration input poles effectively cancel the corresponding zeros in the ground motion response during calibration. Thus the nominal parameters of the combined calibration response are as shown in [Table 10-3](#).

Table 10-3 Combined calibration response nominal parameters

Symbol	Parameter	Nominal Values	Units
z_n	Zeros	0 0 -90.0	rad/s
p_n	Poles	-0.03852 ± 0.03658i -178 -135 ± 160i -671 ± 1154i	rad/s
k	Normalization factor	1.540×10^{11}	(rad/s) ⁴
f_0	Normalization frequency	1	Hz
S	Combined calibration sensitivity at f_0	12.28	rad/s

When a measured electrical calibration result is to be used to convert the seismometer output signals to ground motion, the result must be divided by the nominal calibration input. In practice this means simply adding the nominal poles from [Table 10-2](#) to the set of measured zeros.



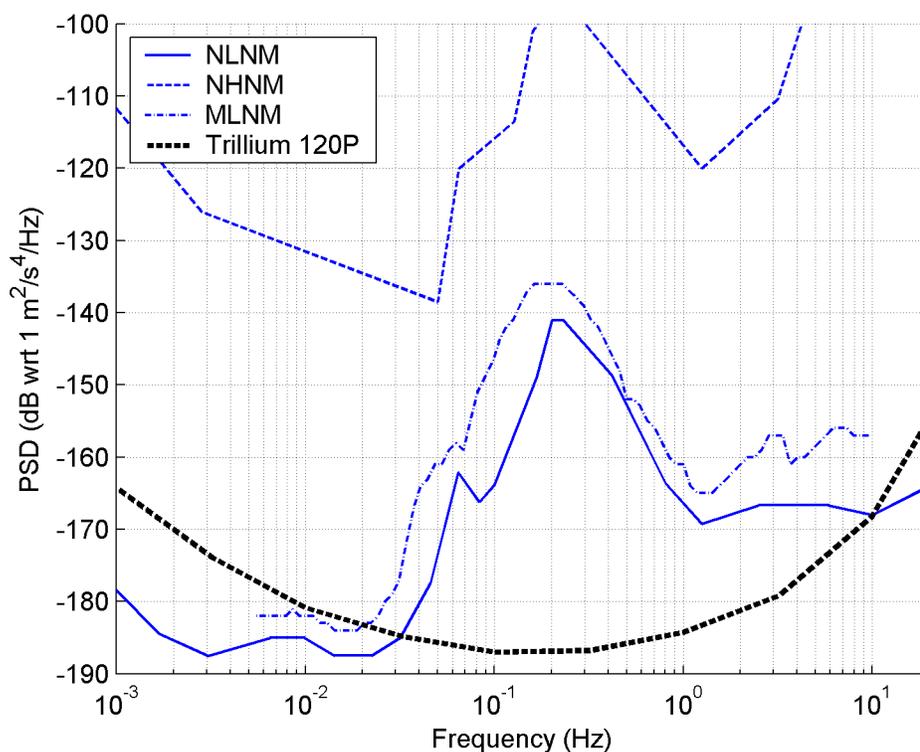
The units of the combined calibration response are rad/s because the calibration input produces an equivalent acceleration, while the seismometer passband is flat to velocity. Therefore, to determine the expected gain for a sinusoidal calibration, you must divide the sensitivity listed in [Table 10-3](#) by $2\pi f$, where f is the frequency of the sinusoid.

10.2 Self-Noise

Figure 10-2 plots typical self-noise for Trillium 120P/PA seismometers. Three curves are included for reference: Peterson's new low-noise model (NLNM) and new high-noise model (NHNM), and McNamara and Buland's probability density function (PDF) mode low noise model (MLNM).¹ The noise floor specification is valid when the masses are centred within ± 0.4 V. The noise floor in the low frequency area will increase if the masses are further decentred. The self-noise at 100 seconds could rise to as high as -168 dB if the masses are off centre by the maximum ± 4.0 V. Therefore to obtain the best low noise performance, it is best to ensure the masses are well centred.

The noise floor shown is the typical level of instrument self-noise assuming proper installation. To achieve best performance for any seismometer, meticulous attention to detail must be paid to choice of site, vault design, and seismometer installation. See Chapter 2 "Selecting and Preparing a Site" and Chapter 3 "Installing a Trillium 120P/PA."

Figure 10-2 Trillium 120P/PA self-noise



1. See also:

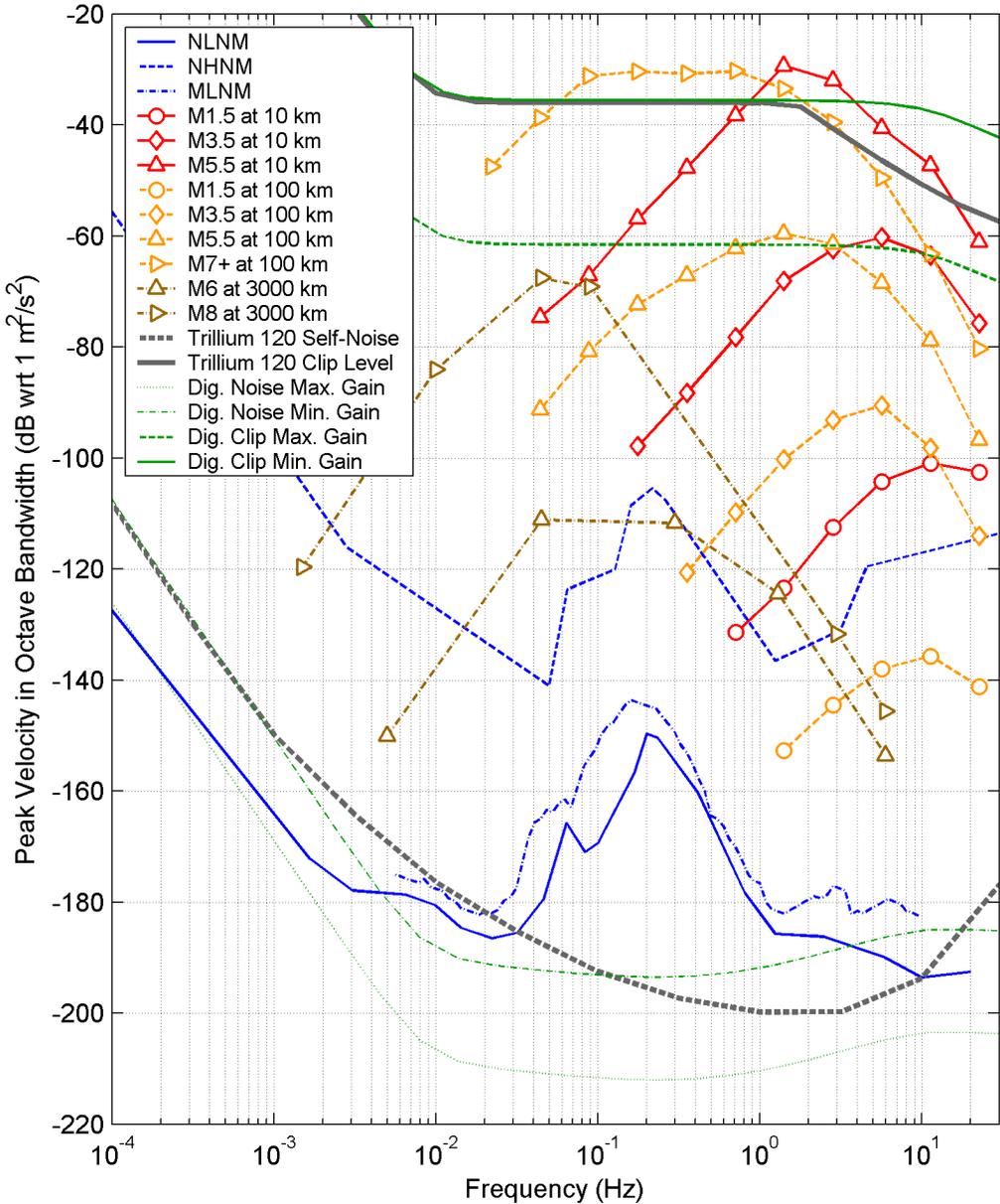
Jon Peterson, *Observations and Modeling of Seismic Background Noise*, Open-File Report 93-922 (Albuquerque, New Mexico: U.S. Department of Interior Geological Survey, 1993).

Daniel E. McNamara and Raymond P. Buland, "Ambient Noise Levels in the Continental United States," *Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America* 94, 4 (August 2004): 1517–1527.

John F. Clinton and Thomas H. Heaton, "Potential Advantages of a Strong-motion Velocity Meter over a Strong-motion Accelerometer," *Seismological Research Letters* 73, 3 (May/June 2002): 332–342.

To determine the dynamic range at frequencies of interest for your application, compare the noise floor to the Trillium 120P/PA clip level using [Figure 10-3](#). For the purpose of comparing noise floors to clip levels, [Figure 10-3](#) converts power spectral densities using octave bandwidths and an RMS-to-peak conversion factor of 1.253.

Figure 10-3 Trillium 120P/PA performance



Chapter 11

Connector and Cables

11.1 Connector Pinout

The Trillium 120P/PA connector is a 19-pin male military circular type hermetic connector. [Table 11-1](#) provides the connector pinout.

Table 11-1 Connector pinout

Pin	Name	Function	Type
L	Z+/W+	vertical (W axis) output	40 Vpp differential
M	Z-/W-		
N	Y+/V+	north-south (V axis) output	
A	Y-/V-		
P	X+/U+	east-west (U axis) output	
B	X-/U-		
T	CAL_SIG	calibration signal input	9.2 k Ω input impedance 0.01023 m/s ² ·V nominal
K	U_CALEN	calibration enable inputs	active-high 5 V to 15 V (low = open or 0 V)
J	V_CALEN		
U	W_CALEN		
E	U_MP	mass position outputs	\pm 4.0 V single-ended
F	V_MP		
S	W_MP		
V	AGND	analog ground	N/A
H	+PWR	power input	9 V to 36 V DC isolated
G	-PWR	power return	
D	UVW/TX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ input: enable UVW instead of XYZ outputs ◆ output: serial RS-232 transmit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ as UVW input: active-high 5 V to 15 V; (low = open or 0 V) ◆ as TX output: \pm5 V
C	MC/RX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ input: initiate mass centring ◆ input: serial RS-232 receive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ as MC input: active-high 5 V to 15 V (low = open or 0 V) ◆ as RX input: +5 V/0 V to \pm15 V
R	DGND	digital ground	N/A
shell	CHASSIS	for shielding and safety	N/A

11.2 Seismometer Cable Pinout

A seismometer cable, Nanometrics part number 16169-nM or 16170-nM (where n is the length of the cable in metres), may be included with your Trillium 120P/PA. [Table 11-2](#) provides the pinout for part number 16169-nM and [Table 11-3 "Seismometer cable wiring for cable 16170-nM \(open-ended cable\)"](#) on page 59 provides the pinout for part number 16170-nM. A label with the part number is located on the cable. Use the appropriate pinout table for the appropriate cable as a reference when wiring the generic seismometer cable to a digitizer connector.

Table 11-2 Seismometer cable wiring for cable 16169-nM (for Nanometrics digitizers)

Nanometrics Digitizer			Seismometer			Wire Colour	Run
Connector	Pin	Name	Connector	Pin	Name		
P1	U	CH1+	P2	L	Z+/W+	Brown	1
P1	C	CH1-	P2	M	Z-/W-	Black	1
P1	B	CH1 GND				DRAIN	1
P1	A	CH2+	P2	N	Y+/V+	Orange	2
P1	S	CH2-	P2	A	Y-/V-	Black	2
P1	T	CH2 GND				DRAIN	2
P1	a	CH3+	P2	P	X+/U+	Yellow	3
P1	P	CH3-	P2	B	X-/U-	Black	3
P1	R	CH3 GND				DRAIN	3
P1	N	CAL1+	P2	T	CAL_SIG	White	
P1	Z	CAL1-/CTRL4	P2	U	W_CALEN	Black	
P1	c	CAL2-/CTRL5	P2	J	V_CALEN	Brown	
P1	Y	CAL3-/CTRL6	P2	K	U_CALEN	Red	
P1	K	EXT_SOH1	P2	S	W_MP	Orange	
P1	X	EXT_SOH2	P2	F	V_MP	Yellow	
P1	J	EXT_SOH3	P2	E	U_MP	Green	
P1	B	CH1 GND	P2	V	AGND	Pink	
P1	F	SEN +12V	P2	H	+BAT	Red	4
P1	D	SEN RTN	P2	G	-BAT	Black	4
P1	b	CHGND				DRAIN	4
P1	H	CTRL1	P2	D	UVW/TX	Blue	
P1	W	CTRL2	P2	C	MC/RX	Purple	
P1	V	DGND	P2	R	DGND	Grey	
P1	M	CAL2+	P1	N	CAL1+	Yellow	
P1	L	CAL3+	P1	M	CAL2+	Yellow	
P1		SHELL	P2		SHELL/BAND	Overall/Shield	
P1	G	CTRL3					
P1	E	SEN -12V					

Table 11-3 Seismometer cable wiring for cable 16170-nM (open-ended cable)

Seismometer			Digitizer			Wire Colour	Run
Connector	Pin	Name	Connector	Pin	Name		
P1	L	Z+/W+	P2		CH1+	Brown	1
P1	M	Z-/W-	P2		CH1-	Black	1
P1					CH1 GND	DRAIN	1
P1	N	Y+/V+	P2		CH2+	Orange	2
P1	A	Y-/V-	P2		CH2-	Black	2
P1					CH2 GND	DRAIN	2
P1	P	X+/U+	P2		CH3+	Yellow	3
P1	B	X-/U-	P2		CH3-	Black	3
P1					CH3 GND	DRAIN	3
P1	T	CAL_SIG	P2		CAL1+	White	
P1	U	W_CALEN	P2		CAL1-	Black	
P1	J	V_CALEN	P2		CAL2-	Brown	
P1	K	U_CALEN	P2		CAL3-	Red	
P1	S	W_MP	P2		EXT_SOH1	Orange	
P1	F	V_MP	P2		EXT_SOH2	Yellow	
P1	E	U_MP	P2		EXT_SOH3	Green	
P1	V	AGND	P2		CH1 GND	Pink	
P1	H	+BAT	P2		SEN +12V	Red	4
P1	G	-BAT	P2		SEN RTN	Black	4
P1			P2		CHGND	DRAIN	4
P1	D	UVW/TX	P2		CTRL1	Blue	
P1	C	MC/RX	P2		CTRL2	Purple	
P1	R	DGND	P2		DGND	Grey	
P1		Shell/Band	P2		Shell	Overall/Shield	

11.3 Cable Design Guidelines

If you are designing your own cable, use the following cable design guidelines:

- ♦ Include effective EMI shielding in the cable design.
 -  Double-shielded twisted-pair cable is a good choice for EMI shielding as the twisted pairs provide magnetic shielding, an inner shield grounded at the digitizer provides good electric field shielding, and a continuous outer shield provides good high RF shielding.
- ♦ Use the DGND for the return currents of the control signals (U_CALEN, V_CALEN, W_CALEN, UVW/TX and MC/RX).
- ♦ Use the AGND for the return currents of the analog signals (CAL_SIG, U_MP, V_MP, and W_MP).
-  AGND is connected to CHGND inside the seismometer. If AGND is connected through the cable, the case of the Trillium 120P/PA should be isolated from earth ground to prevent a ground loop.
- ♦ Ensure that the cable capacitance does not exceed 10 nF. For Nanometrics cables, this corresponds to 25 m.
- ♦ Ensure the cable length is sufficient to allow for strain relief.
- ♦ Ensure that the peak current requirement of the Trillium 120P/PA does not result in a voltage drop along the cable which takes the power supply voltage below the minimum of 9 V required at the Trillium 120P/PA.
- ♦ Ensure the cable is watertight.
- ♦ Check the cable electrically after assembly. In particular, ensure that the individual and overall shields are not shorted together unless so specified.
- ♦ Make sure cables are labelled with correct drawing numbers and revisions.
- ♦ Make sure the digitizer is configured so that the default states of the control lines put the Trillium 120P/PA in the desired state.

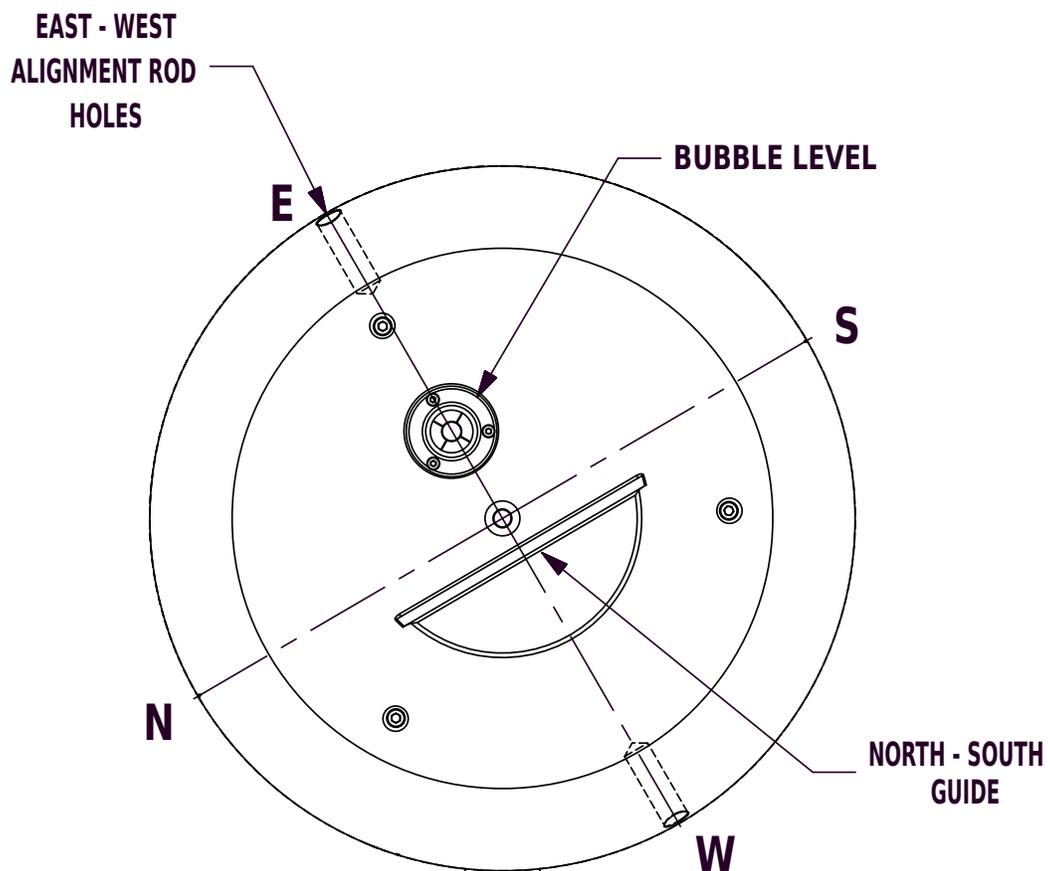
Chapter 12

Alignment Features and Dimensions

12.1 Top View of Alignment Features

Figure 12-1 is an illustration that shows the relative orientation of the north-south and east-west alignment features on a Trillium 120P/PA seismometer.

Figure 12-1 Top view of alignment features



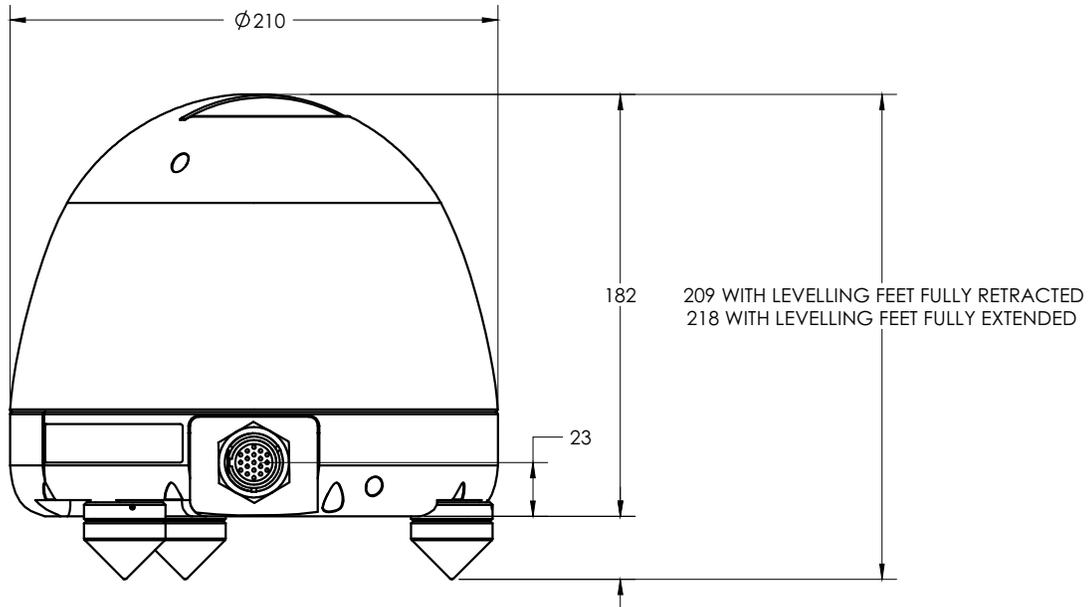
12.3 Side View of Dimensions

Figure 12-3 is an illustration that shows the alignment features and dimensions of a Trillium 120P/PA seismometer from the side.



All dimensions are in millimetres unless otherwise stated.

Figure 12-3 Side view of alignment features and dimensions



Appendix A

Glossary

A.1 Glossary of Abbreviations and Terms

A

ADC

Analog to Digital Converter

AGND

Analog Ground

AWG

American Wire Gauge

C

CHGND

Chassis Ground

D

DGND

Digital Ground

E

EMI

Electromagnetic Interference

F

FBE

Feedback Electronics

G

GPS

Global Positioning System

M

MLNM

Mode Low Noise Model

N

NEMA

National Electrical Manufacturers Association

NHNM

New High-Noise Model

NLNM

New Low-Noise Model

NMSOP

New Manual of Seismological Observatory Practice

P

PDF

Probability Density Function

PWR

Power

R

RF

Radio Frequency

RMA

Return Merchandise Authorization

RMS

Root Mean Squared

T

TCP/IP

Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol

A.2 List of Unit Abbreviations and Symbols

Table A-1 provides a list of unit abbreviations and symbols commonly used in Nanometrics documentation.

Table A-1 Unit abbreviations and symbols

Abbreviation or Symbol	Definition	Abbreviation or Symbol	Definition
°	degree	lb	pound
∅	diameter	m	metre
μ	micro	m/s	metre per second
Ω	ohm	m/s ²	metre per second, squared
A	ampere	mA	milliampere
AC	alternating current	MB	megabyte
b	bit	MΩ	megaohm
B	byte	MHz	megahertz
bps	bits per second	mi.	mile
C	Celsius	mL	millilitre
cm	centimetre	mm	millimetre
dB	decibel	ms	millisecond
DC	direct current	MTU	maximum transmission unit
F	farad	mV	millivolt
ft.	foot	mW	milliwatt
g	gram	N	Newton
g	gravity	nF	nanofarad
GB	gigabyte	ns	nanosecond
GHz	gigahertz	rad	radian
Hz	hertz	rad/s	radian per second
in.	inch	s	second
KB	kilobyte	sps	samples per second
kg	kilogram	U	rack unit
kHz	kilohertz	V	volt
kΩ	kiloohm	Vpp	Volts peak-to-peak
kW	kilowatt	W	watt
L	litre		

About Nanometrics

Nanometrics is a world leader in the development of precision instrumentation, network technology, and software applications for seismological and environmental studies. Using Nanometrics technology, our customers establish and grow research networks that are often located in extreme environments such as the frozen Arctic and Antarctic, the arid deserts of the Middle East, the jungles of South America, and the depths of the world's oceans. Many of these are mission-critical national and regional networks that demand the highest possible data quality and availability.

Nanometrics provides end-to-end solutions that include a growing portfolio of broadband and strong motion seismometers, dataloggers and digitizers, satellite ground station systems for remote site data collection, and software applications for data and network analysis and management. To support this portfolio, Nanometrics also provides global systems engineering services for design, installation, and support of complete networks.

Our head office, research and development centre, and production facility are located in the Kanata North Business Park of Ottawa, the high-technology heart of Canada's capital region.

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Contacting Technical Support

If you need technical support please submit a request on the Nanometrics technical support site or by email or fax. Include a full explanation of the problem and related information such as log files.

Support site: <http://support.nanometrics.ca>
Email: techsupport@nanometrics.ca